

QUARTERLY ISSUES PROGRAM

LIST FOR

WWLP – SPRINGFIELD, MA

Issues Program List Herein
Covers the Period
JULY 1, 2008 through SEPTEMBER 30, 2008

The following is WWLP programming addressing Crime during the 3rd quarter of 2008. These issues were addressed through our locally produced news programming.

News 07/01/08 5pm :30

A Holyoke man is under arrest after police discovered drugs and an AK-47 Assault Rifle in his apartment. According to Holyoke police chief Anthony Scott, Eugenio Rivera was arrested this morning after detectives raided his apartment at 660 South Bridge Street. Scott said in addition to the AK-47, police found 55 rounds of ammunition for the rifle, a nine millimeter pistol with a large capacity magazine, over a thousand dollars in cash, and crack cocaine. Rivera faces several weapons and drug charges.

News 07/01/08 5pm :30

A Massachusetts grand jury has indicted a state senator on charges that he allegedly sexually harassed four women in a single day in Lowell last month. Middlesex District Attorney Gerry Leone on Tuesday said Sen. James Marzilli faces charges of attempting to commit indecent assault and battery, annoying and accosting people of the opposite sex, disorderly conduct and resisting arrest. No date has been scheduled for the arraignment of the Arlington Democrat.

News 07/02/08 5pm :30

A nationwide manhunt for fugitive hedge-fund executive Samuel Israel is over. He turned himself in this morning to police in Southwick. A quiet Hampden County Community has been swarmed with FBI agents and US Marshals. Israel allegedly faked his suicide on June 9th, the day he was supposed to report to authorities to begin his 20 year prison sentence for billing investors out of hundreds of millions of dollars. Israel has been staying at the Prospect Mountain Campground in Granville since June 10th.

News 07/02/08 5pm :30

A Montague man convicted of torching a 136-year-old Franklin County paper mill has been sentenced to up to 15 years in prison. Jonathan Tanzer was convicted last month of starting the May 2007 fire that destroyed a building at the Strathmore paper mill in Turners Falls. Firefighters from five Massachusetts counties responded. Tanzer was sentenced yesterday in Greenfield Superior Court. Prosecutors say the former mill employee was angry at the owner and was trying to steal copper wire.

News 07/03/08 5pm :30

An Easthampton man will serve five years probation after pleading guilty to involuntary manslaughter for supplying the vodka that a teenage girl drank before her death. According to the A-P, 15-year-old Alexis Garcia died in February 2007 of alcohol poisoning after drinking vodka Timothy Parent bought for his own daughter. Parent pleaded guilty in Hampshire County Superior Court yesterday. Prosecutors say the case was the first in which alcohol was cited for wanton and reckless action resulting in death.

News **07/03/08** **5pm** **:30**

In Vermont, prosecutors say Michael Jacques could face the death penalty. He's been charged with kidnapping his 12-year-old niece, Brooke Bennett, whose body was found yesterday near his home after she'd been missing for a week. Jacques was last seen with his niece on a surveillance video at a convenience store a week ago, the day she disappeared. He was taken into custody Sunday on sexual assault charges involving another underage girl.

News **07/05/08** **6am** **:30**

Former New Hampshire congressional candidate Gary Dodds has been arrested, again; this time for assaulting someone at his Portsmouth home. Police say Dodds was arrested Thursday night at the Portsmouth rental property he owns and charged with simple assault, false imprisonment, and breach of bail conditions. He is being held without bail and will appear in Portsmouth District Court on Monday. Dodds spent 20 days in jail and a year of home confinement, faking his disappearance after a car crash two years ago.

News **07/06/08** **7am** **:30**

An internal investigation has been launched at Springfield Police Headquarters after a city officer opened fire during a traffic stop, hitting the driver. Police and the crime scene unit descended on the area of 36 Kensington Avenue after 7:00 Saturday night. According to Lt. Rupert Daniel, the officer, whose name is being kept under wraps, thought the subject he had pulled over was armed. The routine traffic stop turned violent when the officer believed the driver, 18 year old Louis Giles was armed and ultimately shot the teenager in the wrist. That driver, from Springfield has been charged with unlicensed operation, assault with a dangerous weapon, failure to stop for police, reckless operation and driving with an open container of alcohol. Jiles was treated at Baystate Medical Center and released for a gunshot wound to the wrist. The officer has been placed on administrative duty until the internal investigation has been completed.

News **07/06/08** **9am** **:30**

Crowds gathered to see the infamous "Girls Gone Wild" bus roll through downtown as shots erupted in sterns square around 1:30 this morning. Police Lt. Alberto Ayala told us 24-year old Yuri Rankin was targeting a 22 year old city man, shooting him once in the arm. Rankin is being held on several charges this morning at Springfield police headquarters. Police say the shooting was the result of jealous romantic rage.

News **07/07/08** **6am** **:30**

Police have confirmed the identity of the Palmer man struck by a car and killed on the fourth of July. 39-year old Dave Bassett was killed Friday night when a teen allegedly ran him over with a car. 19-year old Brian Dickson is accused of intentionally running his car into the fireworks display Bassett was lighting on Pleasant Street. Police say Dickson left the scene and then returned a short time later.

News **07/07/08** **NOON** **:30**

In Amherst, two people have been arrested in connection with a theft at the CVS on University Drive. A news release from the Amherst Police Department says 42 year old Michael Miller and 36 year old Dawn Czupryna, both of Springfield, were caught stealing over a \$1,000 worth of merchandise, including Rogaine, weight loss pills, laxatives, Claritin, and Prilosec. The two fled in a car, but were stopped by Amherst police just moments later. Both are charged with shoplifting.

News **07/07/08** **NOON** **:30**

Three men from Holyoke have been arrested in connection with an attempted burglary last night. A news release from the Holyoke Police Department says just before midnight, police received a call saying there were two men on roof of the La Plazita market on Appleton Street, as well as a man in the parking lot. The fire department was summoned to the building to provide ladders for police officers, when they discovered the subjects had peeled back the roofing material in an effort to get in the building. Julio Rivera and Bobby Smith are being held on \$5,000 dollars bail. Obdulio Santana was released on personal recognizance.

News **07/09/08** **5pm** **:30**

Chicopee Police have arrested a man accused of killing his roommate with a baseball bat. The man arrested is 56-year-old Marion Szlachta of 7 Trafton Street. Authorities caught him earlier today following a civilian tip to police. 22News was here at Chicopee district court this afternoon as he was being processed. Szlachta is charged with murdering his roommate, 43-year-old Randy Maleski. He's also charged with assault and battery with a dangerous weapon. Maleski's body was found yesterday afternoon in their Trafton Street home. One neighbor from across the street says this incident didn't surprise her.

News **07/10/08** **5pm** **:30**

Massachusetts State Police have captured in Springfield one of the state's most wanted sex offenders. State Police Trooper Thomas Murphy told 22News 51 year old Gerry Lewis of 18 Church Street in Enfield, Connecticut was arrested this morning. Lewis was wanted by Springfield, South Hadley, and Westhampton Police. Trooper Murphy says Lewis was in a parked car outside the V-A Clinic on Bond Street when he was apprehended. Lewis was on the Massachusetts Top 10 Most Wanted High Risk Sex Offenders List.

News **07/10/08** **5pm** **:30**

A former teacher convicted of 11 counts of possessing child pornography has been sentenced to one year behind bars. 50-year-old Edgar Selavka of Easthampton is a former preschool and Sunday school teacher. He was charged in January 2007 after the contents of his stolen backpack were found in a public restroom in Northampton. Prosecutors say pornographic images also were found on two computer discs and on his home computer. Selavka's lawyer had asked for leniency because his client never assaulted children and has been receiving substance abuse treatment and counseling.

News **07/14/08** **NOON** **:30**

Springfield police continue to look for two suspects after a woman was sexually assaulted at knife point at St. Johns Congregational Church early Sunday morning. Police say the victim managed to fend off her attackers by kicking and screaming. She ran out the gate and called for help. Police are now on the hunt for two Hispanic males. The first was a man in his 20's wearing a red shirt, a gold cross and blue jeans, and the second, an older man sporting a cast on his hand.

News **07/16/08** **NOON** **:30**

A Massachusetts-based real estate developer and 23 landlords have been cited for violations of laws that require them to notify tenants about lead paint in their apartments. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency said yesterday that the Community Builders Inc. and associated landlords repeatedly broke lead disclosure laws in 11 communities in Massachusetts and Connecticut between 2003 and 2006. The federal law requires landlords and property owners to notify prospective tenants or buyers about the potential for lead paint hazards in homes to protect children from ingesting lead. The companies face penalties of up to \$11,000 for each violation.

News **07/18/08** **5am** **:30**

Two people are stabbed after a fight got out of hand in Springfield. It happened outside of 55 Wilmont Street around midnight. Springfield police captain John Barbieri told 22 News that one man was stabbed severely in the abdomen during the altercation. He was driven to Mercy Medical Center by a friend then transferred to Baystate Medical Center where he is in surgery with life threatening injuries. The other victim was stabbed in the cheek. His condition isn't as severe. Detectives are working on finding suspects in the case.

News **07/18/08** **NOON** **:30**

Two suspects were apprehended in Holyoke for using counterfeit money. Viviana Ordonez-Romero and Edwin Gonzalez were caught using counterfeit \$100 bills at the Holyoke Mall. Holyoke Police Chief Anthony Scott tells 22 News that during the booking process for Gonzalez, four more counterfeit \$100 bills were found during a strip search.

Gonzalez is an illegal alien and is being held on an immigration detainer. He will face deportation hearings in a federal immigration court after he is released or if he serves time on any criminal convictions. Chief Scott also says there are two warrants out for Gonzalez's arrest by the state of Florida. Ordonez-Romero was also found to be wanted on a warrant out of Ann Arbor, Michigan.

News **07/19/08** **6am** **:30**

A baby mystery in Philadelphia takes a strange turn after police discover a body in the apartment of a woman who arrived at a hospital with a newborn she falsely claimed was her own. Police say the body was found with its hands bound in the home of 38-year-old Andrea Curry-Demus yesterday. Authorities have not confirmed whether the body is male or female. Police say Curry-Demus showed up at West Penn Hospital in Pittsburgh on Thursday with a newborn who had the umbilical cord still attached. After tests showed the baby was not hers, she claimed she paid the mother \$1,000 for the infant. Curry-Demus is being held in county jail on a child endangerment charge.

News **07/19/08** **6am** **:30**

A Connecticut elementary school teacher has been charged with child pornography. Thirty-eight-year-old Thomas Bavedas of Milford is accused of possessing more than 63,000 pictures and videos of child porn, including some photos he allegedly took himself. Bavedas was arraigned in Milford Superior Court yesterday and is due back in court August 6th. He was teaching fourth grade at Waltersville Elementary School in Bridgeport.

News **07/19/08** **9am** **:30**

A 10 year old Bay State girl says two men robbed her of cans she planned to recycle for money. Mahogoney Bethea told police the incident happened in broad daylight at this redemption center in Attleboro. Mahogoney says she had about 10 dollars worth of cans when the men robbed her Wednesday. She told police one of the men said he needed the cans more than she did.

News **07/21/08** **5pm** **:30**

Two Springfield teens have been ordered held without bail after pleading not guilty to murder charges in the shooting death of 19-year-old Mario Hornsby. Kieson Cuffee and Daniel Williams the III were arraigned today in Hampden County Superior Court. Investigators have said that Hornsby, the captain of the Central High School basketball team, was not the intended target of the May 17th shooting.

News **07/21/08** **5pm** **:30**

A homeless man is now living in lockup after allegedly stabbing two men during a bar brawl in Orange Saturday morning. 42-year old Michael Vieu was arraigned on two counts of attempted murder charges in Orange District Court and is being held without the right to bail.

Police say he stabbed 37-year old Jason O'Leary and another 32-year in the abdomen while at the Black Crow tavern. Bouncers who witnessed the attack, subdued Vieu before police arrived just after midnight. Both victims suffered non-life threatening injuries.

News **07/23/08** **5pm** **:30**

A Holyoke man is charged for wielding a knife at customers of a fast food restaurant last evening. Captain Arthur Monfette says that 56-year-old Luis Rivera of Springfield was shot once in the shoulder as he lunged at police with a knife last night in the McDonald's on Maple Street. Monfette said that Rivera was originally wielding the knife at restaurant patrons, and refused to drop it when police arrived. Sgt. Daniel Reardon was the officer involved in the shooting. Rivera was taken to Baystate Medical Center, and he will recover. He faces four counts of assault with a dangerous weapon in addition to several other charges.

News **07/23/08** **11pm** **:30**

Springfield police are on the search for a woman who they say has endangered her child. 32 year-old Catava Gee entered her mother's home, allegedly stole money, and took her son, 3 year-old Quran Gee, on Sunday. Quran is in the legal custody of his grandmother. According to a news release, Gee did not take her son's asthma medication, and she could be under the influence some kind of illegal narcotic. Catava is described as a black female, light skinned, slim build, short hair, brown eyes, 110 pounds, with a small scar on her left cheek.

News **07/24/08** **6pm** **:30**

There are new developments in connection with a near fatal stabbing in Springfield. Police are searching for 21-year-old Springfield resident Wilfredo Pabon in connection with last Friday's stabbing outside 55 Wilmont Street. The victim, 25-year-old Christopher Washburn of Springfield, remains in Critical condition at Baystate Medical Center. Pabon's last known address is 306 Liberty Street in Springfield.

News **07/25/08** **NOON** **:30**

A case of road rage has one woman behind bars today. Around 10:00 last night, Springfield Police Sgt. John Delaney said 39 year old April Grange was arrested after allegedly assaulting a 75 year old woman with a metal pipe because she was driving too slow. Delaney said Grange followed the elderly woman into the Burger King parking lot at State and Walnut Street got out of her car and started screaming at the woman. Grange allegedly went to her trunk and grabbed a large metal pipe and started to beat the woman. Grange is being charged with assault with a dangerous weapon on a person over 60 and disorderly conduct. She'll be arraigned in Springfield District Court today.

News **07/26/08** **6am** **:30**

Just outside of Springfield, a man was stabbed multiple times early this morning. Sgt. Brian Manly tells 22 News that just moments ago, police arrested one person in connection to the

stabbing. Manly says two men got into a fight outside 71-75 Harvard St. at around 4:30 this morning, leaving one man bleeding on the sidewalk. The victim was dropped off at Mercy Medical Center, but later transferred to Baystate. Manly says the man suffered superficial wounds to his torso. He is currently in stable condition at Baystate.

News **07/28/08** **NOON** **:30**

An arrest has been made in connection to the murder of a Rhode Island couple whose bodies were found in the septic tank in their own back yard. Police have arrested 24 year old James Soares Jr., the son of the couple. Family members reported James Soares Sr. and his wife Marian missing on July 15th after they missed a family reunion. Police excavated the couple's yard with a backhoe and discovered the two body bags with their remains.

News **07/29/08** **5pm** **:30**

A homeless man is held without the right to bail after pleading not guilty today to killing another homeless man over the weekend. Springfield detectives arrested 54 year old Michael Forte yesterday for the brutal slaying of 50 year old Steven Donohue early Sunday morning. Donohue's body was found with numerous stab wounds on Main and Bliss Streets in the south end. Forte's next court appearance will be August 29th.

News **07/30/08** **NOON** **:30**

Police continue their pursuit of a man considered armed and dangerous, who allegedly kidnapped two women at gunpoint yesterday afternoon on the banks of the Westfield River in Russell. Lt. Daniel Kennedy says the gunman lead them on a terrifying trek for three miles. Amazingly, the young women claim their kidnapper fell asleep and they were able to run away. One of the alleged victims is assisting authorities in their investigation, while her friend identified potential suspect mug shots with Westfield police.

News **07/30/08** **5:30pm** **:30**

State police have issued an Amber Alert for four young children missing from a home in Lynn where a woman was fatally stabbed. State police spokesman David Procopio says the children, ranging in age from 11 months to 3 years old, were allegedly abducted along with their mother and are believed to be in danger. Police believe the children and the mother, Louna Eveillard, were abducted by 25-year-old Rodlyn Petitbois, the father of the children.

News **07/31/08** **5pm** **:30**

There are new developments in the case of the little girl from Chicopee who was taken from her daycare yesterday. The father of 2-year-old Justice Rose Brown called Chicopee police to say he is in North Carolina. Police have advised him to get to nearest police station to prove his daughter is safe. This comes after they issued an amber alert yesterday in areas in New York, where he was believed to have been heading. 43 year old Joel Brown is accused

of assaulting the girl's mother outside Arbors Day Care on Memorial Drive before taking the little girl.

News **08/02/08** **6am** **:30**

More violence erupts in Springfield as three men were stabbed. Springfield police Lt. Rupert Daniel tells 22 News that just after 3:30 this morning three men were stopped at the gulf station on the corner of Saratoga and Main Street when they were jumped by a group of people. Daniel says the men suffered only superficial wounds and were transported to Baystate Medical Center.

News **08/02/08** **6am** **:30**

Two people were shot to death outside a book warehouse in what appears to be a case of workplace violence. The shooting happened yesterday afternoon, during a shift change at the facility. Police said 32 year-old gunman Robert Diamond opened fire at his former place of employment. Co-workers said Diamond quit several months ago after being denied time off to attend a flyers playoff game.

News **08/02/08** **6am** **:30**

Westfield police say 2 women who prompted an all-out man hunt this week when they said they were kidnapped at gunpoint were lying, and now they'll face charges. Westfield Police Sgt. Raymond Manos says their stories just didn't add up, and when police confronted the two about the discrepancies the women admitted they had lied to police. The two Boston area women were sunbathing on the banks of the Westfield River in Russell Tuesday, and told police at the time that they were taken captive.

News **08/03/08** **7am** **:30**

A number of drunk drivers were nabbed in Hampden County overnight. A sobriety checkpoint was set up on Rt. 5 in Holyoke in the Northampton line. Lt. John Healy of the Massachusetts State Police tells 22 News these checkpoints are very successful. Last night, 170 cars were pulled over into the checkpoint. Nine people were arrested for operating under the influence. Police also arrested two people for possession of heroin and one for possession of marijuana. One person was taken in for an outstanding warrant, and another for a motor vehicle violation.

News **08/03/08** **7am** **:30**

Clark Rockefeller, the man accused of kidnapping his daughter Reigh Boss during a supervised visit last week in Boston is now behind bars. Officials have been tailing Clark Rockefeller from Boston with help of State and Federal agencies, as well as help from the media and the public. Saturday afternoon, his life on the lamb came to an end after he was duped by police. 48 year-old Rockefeller snatched his 7 year-old daughter Reigh and claimed he intended to take the girl out of the country on his alleged yacht while leading authorities on

a wild goose chase. Yesterday his daughter was found safe and sound and has been finally reunited with her mother Sandra. Boston Police commissioner Ed Davis said a tip from a "concerned citizen" led the FBI and Baltimore Police to an apartment north of the downtown area yesterday around 3:30 in the afternoon and beat the con-man at his own game.

News **08/03/08** **11pm** **:30**

A 50 year-old homeless man is the latest murder victim in Springfield. He died late this morning after being stabbed in the early morning hours. He was the second murder victim in the city within a ten hour period. According to Captain Robert McFarlin, commander of the detective bureau, the man was found in a doorway at 1140 Main Street near the intersection with Bliss Street around 3:30 this morning. The victim had suffered multiple stab wounds to the upper body. He died at Baystate Medical Center late this morning. Police are looking for a suspect or suspects in that case. Last night a 21 year-old Springfield man was fatally stabbed on Dickinson Street. His 23 year-old roommate was also stabbed. During a ten hour period beginning last night, 3 people were stabbed: two fatally. Three people were also shot.

News **08/04/08** **5pm** **:30**

Police in Connecticut have released video of a rather brazen and bizarre theft that occurred at a pet store last week. A security camera inside the "All Pets Club" in Branford last Wednesday caught a woman stealing a thousand dollar parrot by stuffing it under her shirt and then walking out the store. The woman returned the bird to the pet store Saturday, and offered to buy it. The owner refused, and contacted police who are still investigating but haven't charged the woman yet.

News **08/06/08** **NOON** **:30**

A man from Springfield has been arrested for allegedly assaulting a woman with a knife. Sgt. John Delaney told 22 News that 37 year-old Carl Hunt is accused of assaulting a woman with a knife and attempting to rape her in an alleyway on Main Street around 5:00 this morning. Two bystanders heard the woman screaming and came to her aid. Hunt was charged with assault with intent to rape, kidnapping, and assault with a dangerous weapon.

News **08/06/08** **NOON** **:30**

Another prostitution sweep in Springfield results in five arrests. The undercover operation took place in the city's south end. Three male suspects allegedly approached an undercover female officer and offered her money for sex. Two female prostitutes were also arrested for offering sex to undercover officers. The five face several charges and will appear in court later today.

News **08/07/08** **6pm** **:30**

Few in the town of Granby seem to remember a graduate of the local high school in trouble with the law out of state. 27 year-old Derek Bengtsson was arrested in Pennsylvania earlier

this week, accused of kidnapping and raping a 14 year old girl, which led to a shoot-out with police. Bengtsonn was living with foster parents in 1998 when he graduated from Granby High, which he only attended for his senior year. Bengtsson has been charged with attempted murder, kidnapping and other charges.

News **08/08/08** **5pm** **:30**

Two people are arrested and charged with the kidnapping of a 3 year-old girl from Springfield. Jose Roman-Suarez of Springfield and Carmen Gomez of Springfield were arrested after being found in Rocky Mount, North Carolina with the child. Police stopped the vehicle which was traveling on Interstate-95 yesterday. Police found the child inside the car, unharmed. Roman-Suarez is the child's uncle, she was on an overnight visit with her uncle and his girlfriend. The child is in the custody of the Nash County Department of Social Services. Both Roman-Suarez and Gomez are charged with a fugitive warrant from Massachusetts for kidnapping a minor. Both are being held without bond awaiting extradition to Massachusetts. Roman-Suarez was arrested in 2006 for Indecent Assault on a child under 14. Springfield police Sergeant John Delaney told 22 News, that police detectives will be flying to North Carolina Saturday morning to bring the child back.

News **08/09/08** **6pm** **:30**

Two men were arrested Saturday around 2 in the morning for breaking and entering into 139 Berkshire Avenue in Springfield. But these men weren't looking to steal possessions out of the vacant house, but instead, copper piping. The suspects, Herald and Oscar Wilson, were caught allegedly stripping this house of its copper piping. The price of scrap metal has gone up and copper piping is worth a pretty penny. Springfield police Lt. C. Lee Bennet says the men were attempting to steal about \$2,000 worth of piping. Cases of illegally stripping vacant or for sale homes for their piping is becoming more common. The property realtor for the house on Berkshire Avenue says there's ways to make houses less of a target for this type of theft. Springfield police advise residents, who have homes up for sale to be cautious of unwanted visitors looking to make a profit from their copper piping.

News **08/10/08** **7am** **:30**

Springfield police are now investigating the city's 9th homicide of the year. This, after a city man has died after being viciously stabbed several weeks ago near the "X". 25 year-old Christopher Washburn was stabbed on Wilmont Street back on July 18th. Despite doctors' best attempts to save his life, he died at the hospital and the manhunt continues for a man who allegedly killed him. Police were called to 55 Wilmont Street after a fight escalated out of control back on that July morning. Washburn was the most critically injured, stabbed in the chest and abdomen. A second man suffered minor stab wounds as a result. Washburn was driven to Mercy Medical Center and then taken to Baystate, where he would ultimately die. Captain John Barbieri told 22 News that police are still on the hunt for this man: 21 year-old Wildredo Pabon. When and if he's caught, charges against him will be amended from attempted murder, to murder. He hasn't been seen since the night of July the 18th.

News **08/11/08** **NOON** **:30**

Middlesex County Register of Probate John Buonomo has been placed on unpaid administrative leave after pleading not guilty to charges he stole thousands of dollars from copy and cash machines at the Registry of Deeds. Prosecutors say video surveillance cameras caught Buonomo removing money from the machines numerous times over the past three months. Buonomo remains a candidate for re-election to the job that he has held since 2000, and is running unopposed on the November ballot.

News **08/11/08** **5pm** **:30**

Police have made a disturbing discovery in Enfield. Crime scene investigators were called to 65 Church Street Sunday afternoon. This, after police found the body of a woman on a first floor bedroom following the execution of a search warrant. Chief Carl Sferrazza originally labeled the Enfield woman's death "suspicious." A family member identified the victim as 22-year old Ashley Peoples' and told 22News, her death was no accident.

News **08/12/08** **5pm** **:30**

A man wanted for a stabbing that happened last month in Springfield was arrested this morning. And in a case from today, a woman was seriously wounded when she was stabbed on Patton Street this morning. 55 Wilmont Street in Springfield was quite a scene last month as one man was fatally stabbed. Now, almost a month later, the victim is dead and the alleged attacker is found. Police found 21-year-old Wilfredo Pabon hiding out at his girlfriend's house at 14 Pomona Street early this morning. He is wanted for the stabbing and murder of Christopher Washburn on July 18. Washburn was in the hospital for several weeks before he died this past Saturday at Baystate Medical Center. It is the ninth homicide this year in Springfield. This morning Patton Street residents in Springfield's north end were shocked to learn that one of their neighbors had been slashed across her throat with a broken bottle in front of an empty lots near 74 Patton Street. Soon after the alleged broken bottle slashing attack, police arrested this woman 37 year-old Margaret Angela Lecompte of 74 Patton Street. Police Sgt. John Delaney told 22News, she's been charged with assault and battery with a dangerous weapon as well as assault with intent to murder. Her alleged victim is being treated at Baystate Medical Center. As one Springfield police officer told us after the Patton street incident, instead of gun violence, Springfield has experienced an increase in savage attacks with the use of knives.

News **08/13/08** **5pm** **:30**

Springfield Police are looking for 2 python snakes and 4 ferrets stolen from a Petco on Boston Road. The animals could be in danger. There's concern that the thieves won't care for these animals appropriately. So police are asking for the public's help to locate the animals and those who stole them. Detectives are now reviewing surveillance camera video to figure out who's responsible for allegedly stealing \$600 worth of pythons and ferrets last night. Sergeant John Delaney says when the manager at the Petco on Boston Road opened the store this morning, she discovered a broken aquarium and a ferret cage pried open. He

suspects that four teens who were at the store yesterday before closing time could be to blame.

News **08/13/08** **5pm** **:30**

The images captured by a CVS pharmacy surveillance camera in West Springfield show the man suspected of an attempted purse snatching. West Springfield detective Jay Gearing tells 22News, this is the man believed to be responsible for approaching a woman in the CVS parking lot last night. She reportedly told detectives that the man asked for change for a dollar, tried to steal her purse and assaulted her. After a brief struggle the suspect ran off empty handed. Detective Gearing describes him as a white or Hispanic man, wearing a white T-shirt with blue shorts having a white stripe down the side.

News **08/14/08** **6pm** **:30**

In Greenfield they're driving drugs and dealers out too. This week covert police work resulted in a dozen arrests. But as 22 News reveals, police beat the junkies at their own game by infiltrating their drug ring. They've made similar arrests and raids in recent months, but this weeks bust was the result of weeks of undercover and surveillance work. Police have now made 13 arrests with the apprehension of this woman, 20 year-old Julissa Maldonado. She was arrested today. But still at large, 28 year-old Jeffrey Muniz. The duo, along with 12 alleged conspirators were dealing drugs to clandestine officers posing as users. Greenfield police say they couldn't have done the work without the help of UMASS and Hadley officers. Tuesday geared up in tactical uniforms, police made their move at Leyden Woods to help improve the quality of life in town and Franklin County by removing crack cocaine, pot, and a handgun.

News **08/16/08** **6am** **:30**

A 19-year-old man from Springfield is fighting for his life in a hospital near Niagara Falls, New York. David Shell, who graduated from Belchertown High School, arrived in Niagara Falls last week for a vacation, but days later he was found severely battered behind a loading dock with collapsed lungs, a cracked skull and a broken back. Shell was last seen walking towards downtown Welland. Hours later he was found at beaten by a liquor store. Police say David Shell had intended to visit friends in the area that night, but never made it. 22 News spoke with members of David's family, and they say his condition's been upgraded from critical to serious. Several family members are in Niagara Falls with David right now.

News **08/16/08** **11pm** **:30**

A car thief made off with a vehicle at a Springfield gas station tonight, but the bigger horror is that there was a small child in the car. It happened around 9:00 tonight at a gas station at State Street and Bay Street. According to Captain Peter Dillon, here's what happened: the suspect made off with the car at the gas station. A short time later, the car was recovered on Stebbins Street with the child being found safe. The suspect has been charged with kidnapping and receiving a stolen vehicle, says Dillon. The suspect is a juvenile.

News

08/17/08

7am

:30

In Springfield, police are looking into two residential break-ins that happened overnight. 22 News went to the Springfield Police Headquarters where police are searching for several suspects this morning. These are two separate incidents with one thing in common. The suspects in both break-ins are still on the loose. The first break-in happened just before 1 this morning at 107 Kensington Ave. That's in the Forest Park section of the city. Lt. Rupert Daniel says 4 masked men broke in through the bathroom window with a butcher knife and a rope. They demanded money, but the homeowners allegedly didn't have any so the men left with just a cell phone. No one got hurt. It's a different story at 221 Bay Street where a tenant returned home around 3 this morning to find burglars inside. They allegedly demanded money and when they didn't get it they shot the tenant in the right leg. The 30-year old victim was transferred to Baystate Medical Center with non-life threatening wounds. Lieutenant Daniel says he's being uncooperative.

News

08/17/08

6pm

:30

Quick action by Springfield police officers early this morning may have smashed a ring of copper tubing thieves. Police arrested a Chicopee man outside of the Western Massachusetts electric company complex on Cadwell Drive just before 3 o'clock this morning. Police Lt. C.Lee Bennett tells 22 News they've charged 28 year-old Nathan Martin of Walnut Street in Chicopee with breaking and entering and larceny. Martin was reportedly caught red handed with more than \$300 worth of copper tubing. Lt Bennett said Martin's two alleged accomplices got away. They reportedly used bolt cutters to cut through the chain link fence.

News

08/18/08

6pm

:30

Police arrested three local men tying them to a string of motor vehicle break-ins in one Springfield neighborhood. Springfield police officer Marcia Brown told 22 News the three are accused of breaking into cars in Sixteen Acres. Police arrested the three suspects this morning. 19 year-old Jeffrey Pardo of East Longmeadow, 20 year-old Brian Millen of East Longmeadow, and 23 year-old Asiah Peltier of the Indian Orchard section of Springfield are being charged with breaking and entering. They're suspected in at least 12 vehicle break-ins.

News

08/19/08

5am

:30

Berkshire County District Attorney David Capeless says he's disappointed with a Supreme Judicial Court decision that grants a new trial to a black teenager convicted of fatally stabbing a white teen during a fight. The state's highest court ruled the prosecutor in the case of Tyson Benoit failed to give adequate reasons for excluding a black woman from the jury. The young Pittsfield man was convicted of second-degree murder in the death of Anthony Hopkins. Capeless says he's confident Benoit received a fair trial and will ask the SJC for a rehearing.

News

08/19/08

6am

:30

An 18-year old Greenwich, New York woman is accused of dropping her newborn daughter head first on the sidewalk, and then driving off, leaving the baby behind. Police took pictures of 5 week-old Madison Brown after she was treated for this head injury then released from the hospital on Friday. The downstairs neighbor called 911 after she claims she saw the mother drunkenly fumbling with her keys with little Madison hooked under her arm. The neighbor told police she grabbed the baby up once she fell. And that's when Krista Cherry drove off, leaving her baby daughter behind. She's charged with second-degree assault, endangering the welfare of a child, and driving while intoxicated.

News **08/20/08** **5am** **:30**

An alleged drug dealer who's been eluding police for four months is in custody after a tremendous show of police force. Some Chicopee residents were alarmed to see heavily armed police officers surround the apartment building at 818 Chicopee Street around 1:00 yesterday afternoon. That's when Chicopee police teamed-up with the State Police Fugitive Apprehension Unit to serve a warrant on 20 year-old Christian Low. Low was wanted on 2 counts of assault and battery, illegal possession for a firearm, and drug charges.

News **08/20/08** **5am** **:30**

A Connecticut woman is accused of using her young son to help her steal from churches. 26 year-old Christie Roper is charged with breaking into numerous churches in the town of New Britain. She is seen on this security camera video with her husband, a male friend and her son stealing everything from money and electronics to food and wine from at least eight different churches. Police say the two men are also facing charges, and the child is now in protective custody.

News **08/24/08** **7am** **:30**

A Boston deputy fire chief who's already facing a rape charge has been arrested again. Brockton police told the Boston Globe that 51 year-old Peter Pearson was arrested on Friday night, but they wouldn't say why he was arrested. A call to the Plymouth County District Attorney's office was not immediately returned. Pearson was free on bail after pleading not guilty Wednesday to stalking and raping a woman at gunpoint in Brockton while posing as a state trooper.

News **08/25/08** **NOON** **:30**

A man in Springfield is in the hospital after being shot and stabbed during a home invasion. It all happened around 4:30 this morning at 106 Pasco Road in Indian Orchard. An Eyewitness told 22 News that five to six Hispanic males wearing masks broke into this home and attacked a 23 year-old man. He was shot in the leg and stabbed in the back during the altercation. He is being treated at Baystate Medical Center. A woman and two young children were also in the house, but they were uninjured.

News **08/25/08** **NOON** **:30**

Springfield Police have arrested two men in connection with an overnight theft from a city business. Springfield Police Officer Mike Rivera says the thieves broke into Cabos Flava Fashions at 795 Liberty Street around 4:30 this morning, stealing approximately 5 pairs of Jordan sneakers. Police have arrested 20 year old Jeffrey Hardy from Springfield. The owner of the store believes the thieves broke in by breaking the glass of the store window.

News **08/25/08** **NOON** **:30**

A drug bust in Holyoke results in five arrests. It happened last night in the area of 125 Essex St. and 210 Walnut Street. Peter Vargas, Richard Velasquez, Alex Nieves, Juan Diaz, and Jonathan Nieves were arrested shortly after midnight. Holyoke police found over 200 bags of cocaine on the suspects, reported to be worth over \$2,000. They are being charged with trafficking illegal drugs and are scheduled to be arraigned today at Holyoke District Court.

News **08/26/08** **5pm** **:30**

State police are searching for a man who led them on a chase through Springfield and Chicopee overnight. Lieutenant Dave Wilson told 22 News that the driver took off and crashed right behind our studios on Broadcast Center near the train tracks and then took off on foot around midnight. The car, a Cadillac Deville, was reported stolen a few days ago in Hartford. Investigators are searching the scene for clues and fingerprints today.

News **08/26/08** **5pm** **:30**

There's a new face on Holyoke's ten most wanted list. Holyoke Police Chief Anthony Scott announced today the addition of 31 year-old Derrick Brown to that list. Brown is wanted for assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, and numerous drug charges. His last known address is 8 Ivy Street in Holyoke. He is considered armed and dangerous. Brown replaces Genaro Davila who was previously number six on the list. Davila was arrested in Puerto Rico earlier this month, and is being held on \$165,000 bail on drug and other charges.

News **08/28/08** **5pm** **:30**

A Springfield man who fled the state after allegedly kidnapping his three year old niece is back in the Bay state. 41-year old Jose Manuel-Suarez was transferred back to Springfield following his arrest in North Carolina earlier this month. The kidnapping charges stem from a complaint on August 6th. Suarez and his girlfriend Carmen Gomez are accused of taking a 3 year old, that Gomez was babysitting. Gomez is currently fighting extradition from North Carolina.

News **08/28/08** **5pm** **:30**

News that there was a stabbing on a local bike path has sent shock waves through a local community. Agawam Residents said they're stunned after a man was stabbed today while riding his bike right in broad daylight. Agawam detective Mike Pfau tells 22News a man

biking with his seven year old daughter Thursday morning was attacked on the bike trail between River Road and Campbell Street. The father and daughter had stopped near the water when a man tried to steal their bikes. The father scuffled with the suspect, and suffered stab wound in the stomach. The little girl was not harmed. Police are still searching for the suspect, described as a white man between 35 and 45 years old. If you have any information about this incident contact the Agawam police department at 786-4767.

News **08/28/08** **5pm** **:30**

And a thirteen year old juvenile has been found guilty of setting a massive fire that destroyed a former Holyoke paper mill. The nine alarm fire broke out at the Parsons Paper Mill on June 9th, and burned out of control for hours. According to Fire Chief David LaFond, the juvenile was given the maximum sentence allowable under law. He can serve time up to his 18th birthday.

News **08/29/08** **5pm** **:30**

Two Springfield police officers were attacked early this morning during a traffic stop. Three suspects are behind bars this morning. Springfield Police Capt. John Barbarie told 22news around 4:30 this morning two officers were attacked during a traffic stop in the Forest Park area. After stopping the vehicle, Officer Darren Fitzpatrick was dragged 50 feet by the car pulled over at Hall Street and Belmont. Officer Thomas Labonte tried to assist Fitzpatrick with the arrest, when both men were attacked by two suspects linked to the driver. The three suspects Michael Molina, Jorge Maulinado, and Jotson Risado were eventually arrested. The officers found a hand gun and narcotics in the vehicle. Fitzpatrick suffered non-life threatening injuries and was taken to Baystate Medical Center for treatment. The men are being charged with possession of narcotics, assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, and resisting arrest.

News **08/30/08** **5pm** **:30**

The Springfield Fire Department says someone intentionally set an apartment building on fire overnight. When firefighters arrived they found smoke pouring from number 21 Baldwin St around 1:30 this morning. The unit that was ablaze was vacant. Springfield Fire Dept. Spokesman Dennis Leger says the Arson and Bomb squad ruled the fire is arson. While the rest of the tenants made it out of the building safely, many of them fearing the fire would spread. Fortunately that wasn't the case, due to quick work by the fire department. It's not clear how many residents lived in the building, but they were able to go back inside.

News **09/02/08** **5pm** **:30**

Holyoke police are searching for an armed robber on the run after hitting the People's Bank on Hampden Street. Detectives dusted for fingerprints on the main entrance of the bank branch. A hooded man walked in around 2:30 this afternoon and implied he had a gun,

demanding cash. Police went door to door in the neighborhood, searching for the man, telling residents to be on the lookout after reports that he had fled into a nearby house.

News **09/04/08** **11pm** **:30**

Police recovered a set of bones in Springfield tonight and although it's unclear as to what or whom they're from, the investigation to determine that has begun. Detective William Kelly tells 22News the bones were discovered in a pile of dirt near the corner of Reed and State Streets in Springfield. Paving crews working on a new parking lot for American International College found the mysterious remains wrapped in a blanket. The Springfield Crime Investigations Bureau recovered the evidence. The State Medical Examiner's office will work to identify the remains.

News **09/04/08** **11pm** **:30**

West Side Detectives say this man was caught on camera in the Mount Pleasant Street/Springfield Country Club neighborhood Tuesday Afternoon. Police tell 22News there was a house break in the area, and they're still trying to determine what may have been taken. The man is a white male with a stocky build, who may be in his mid to late teens. If you recognize this man, or if you have any information, you're asked to call West Springfield Detectives at 263-3210.

News **09/04/08** **12pm** **:30**

Two Springfield residents who were charged with stealing the entire inventory of a downtown clothing store made it easy for police. Sergeant John Delaney says 17-year-old Aaron Kelly-Griffin and 20-year-old Timmy Garrett were arrested early yesterday wearing some of the allegedly stolen clothing with the price tags still attached. Delaney says the stolen merchandise is worth "tens of thousands" of dollars.

News **09/05/08** **12pm** **:30**

Police say a stabbing on the Agawam bike path last month - that sent shock waves through the community - was a hoax. Agawam Police Chief Robert Campbell told 22News the man's stab wound to the stomach was self inflicted. Now Ralph Michael, of 6 Randall Street in Agawam, will be charged with filing a false police report. Michael told police he was attacked on the bike path between River Road and Campbell Drive on the morning of August 28 while he was with his 7 year-old daughter. He claimed a man tried to steal their bikes and he was stabbed during the scuffle.

News **09/06/08** **6am** **:30**

Also in Springfield, a man was hit by a vehicle last night. It happened on Cortland Street just before nine o'clock. Police were on scene looking for witnesses to the accident, as the victim was being loaded into the ambulance. He was rushed to Baystate Medical Center. No word on his condition this morning.

News **09/06/08** **9am** **:30**

Springfield detectives are trying to determine the true story behind a shooting that sent one man to the hospital early this morning. Sgt. David Kane with the Springfield Police Department said police responded to mercy medical center where a man was brought after being shot in the stomach around 4:30 this morning. Detectives questioned witnesses who have been flip-flopping their stories. Detectives believe the victim was attempting to break up a fight on 92 High Street when a gun accidentally went off. The victim is being treated at mercy medical center for non-life threatening injuries.

News **09/07/08** **7am** **:30**

A Chicopee man is under arrest and charged with the murder of his roommate. The body of 64-year-old George Roy was found on the side of the road on interstate 91 in Wethersfield Vermont early yesterday. Police found traces of blood and evidence of foul play at his Florence Street apartment. Roy worked at Polep Distributing in Chicopee. Roy's roommate, 37-year-old Peter Bruneau, is in custody in connection with Roy's murder.

News **09/08/08** **5am** **:30**

A multi-car accident late yesterday, shutdown a section of the south end bridge, between Springfield and Agawam, a car rolled over just before ten o'clock in the southbound lane of the bridge in Agawam. Police immediately shutdown that side of the bridge to clear the accident. The driver was taken to the hospital, but their condition is unknown. State police say the driver will face charges of negligent operation.

News **09/09/08** **5am** **:30**

Westfield police caught two teenagers believed responsible for a series of car break-ins. Last week Police met with the two teens and their parents, who handed over radio face-plates, I-Pods, DVD's, and GPS units. Police Officer Doug LaValley tells 22NEWS this was a crime of opportunity.

News **09/09/08** **5am** **:30**

A man and woman posing as Springfield police officers found themselves on the wrong side of the law. They're behind bars after allegedly robbing an ATM customer. The two flashed a bogus badge and somehow ran away with cash.

News **09/09/08** **12pm** **:30**

Springfield police are searching for a bank robber on the run and the crime was caught on camera. About 24 hours ago a man allegedly robbed the Hampden Savings Bank at 1363 Allen Street. In this newly released bank surveillance video you can see the man passing the teller a note, implying that he had a gun. She handed over an undisclosed amount of cash

before he took off. The suspect is described as a black male, standing six feet tall, with a heavy set build and he's clean shaven. Police are asking for your help if you've seen the suspect call the Springfield police with information at 787-6355

News **09/09/08** **5pm** **:30**

Springfield fire investigators are calling a fire that damaged a house on Marble Street suspicious. The fire broke out just before noontime at a vacant house at 64 Marble Street in the city's South End. Springfield Fire Department Spokesman Dennis Leger told 22News the fire appears to have started on the second floor of the two-family home. The cause of the fire has not been released.

News **09/09/08** **6pm** **:30**

A disturbing crime in the dairy isle of a grocery store and its all caught on tape. 22news reporter Kala Rama has the latest surveillance footage as police are asking for your help. Police are still on the look out for a criminal couple traveling together snatching people's purses and racking up their credit card bills. New surveillance footage has surfaced and police are hoping you can identify these two. The victim who doesn't want to be identified for the safety of her family watched this surveillance footage. Now instilled with fear she said it made her stomach turn because he was so close. The latest place this criminal couple hit was in Hadley off Rt.9, at Phillips 66- caught on camera again purchasing \$300 worth of visa check cards, and AT&T, and Verizon phone cards, which are untraceable. Detective Knightly says these two are career criminals. Based on watching the video, they look like a team, they look like they knew what they were doing and they're quick, looking like they have done this more than one time. If you know any information on who these people are please contact your local police department.

News **09/10/08** **5pm** **:30**

Five people face drug and other charges after a month long investigation uncovered an alleged illegal heroin distribution ring in Holyoke. The five suspects were arrested Tuesday at 131 Roberto Clemente Street. According to Holyoke Police Chief Anthony Scott one hundred thirty-two baggies of Heroin with a street value of more than 13-hundred dollars were confiscated. Police also found two handguns, ammunition, cash and drug packaging paraphernalia. Bail for the suspects ranged from 140 dollars to 5,000 dollars, amounts that Chief Scott claimed was set way too low.

News **09/11/08** **5am** **:30**

New this morning a dangerous situation for Springfield police when a suspect allegedly attempts to run cops over with a car, Springfield police Lt. Rupert Daniel told 22news they received a call about shots fired at 406 Walnut Street, just after 12:15am when officers arrived at the house. The shooting suspect jumped in his car and allegedly tried to run the officers over. The chase ended at 448 Wilbraham Road where they found a person matching the description of the subject. Police took the individual into custody, but that individual was

actually the brother of the shooter. Police are still searching for the suspect this morning. His name is not being released because he is a juvenile.

News **09/11/08** **11pm** **:30**

Springfield detectives are investigating a Robbery near a bank in the city's Mason Square section. Detectives tell 22News there was a robbery at the Wilbraham Road Peoples Bank early this evening. No word on what was taken, but we're told no one was hurt.

News **09/12/08** **6am** **:30**

New this morning, Springfield police are searching for suspects after a drive-by shooting overnight, which sparked a car chase through downtown. 22News reporter Anthony DiLorenzo is live on Spring Street where the chase came to a crashing conclusion. Amazingly the driver of the car walked away after flipping his vehicle that had been riddled with bullets, on the corner of Spring Street and State Street. Sgt. David Kane told 22News, this entire ordeal was sparked by a drive-by shooting on Pearl Street. Apparently shots were fired from a vehicle there, hitting another and it sparked this death-defying chase. The driver of the car which was riddled with bullets sped off, in an attempt to save his life but the car with the gunmen wanted more. Shortly after a chase ensued, the driver flipped his car onto its roof on Spring Street. He escaped the crash and the shooter without more than a few bumps and bruises. The driver of the car, did not have to go to the hospital it's not clear what prompted this gunfire. Police are still searching for the shooter.

News **09/14/08** **7am** **:30**

Several Holyoke police officers had a close call yesterday morning after they were reportedly targeted by a drive by shooter. Holyoke Police Chief Anthony Scott said officers were called to a disturbance outside the Caribbean nightclub on Race Street at closing time Friday night when the driver of a passing car fired twice at the officers in front of the club. Luckily the bullets missed their mark. Police caught up with the driver about a quarter of a mile away at the boys and girls club parking lot. Police identified 35-year-old Hector Santiago of New Britain as the triggerman. Residents say they're concerned about out-of-towners bringing violence and drugs to their neighborhood.

News **09/14/08** **7am** **:30**

A female security guard at Mercy Medical Center is recovering this morning after being beaten this morning while on duty. As 22news reporter Shane Symolon tells us, the security officer was attacked after confronting the suspect near a restricted area. Police say 35-year old RAFAEL CRUZ JUNIOR was wandering the third floor halls of Mercy Medical Center at 7 in the morning. "He had actually been removed from the hospital by police on prior occasions, and we had a no trespass order against him." That's why a 46-year-old woman stopped the man but when she did, police and hospital officials say Cruz grabbed her walkie-talkie and beat her with it. Mercy Hospital Vice

President Mark Fulco says while it was unfortunate that the security guard was hurt, but the hospital responded just the way it was supposed to.

News **09/14/08** **7am** **:30**

Two out of control cars smashed into two Springfield Police cruisers injuring one officer within twenty minutes of each other early this morning. Captain Eugene Dexheimer told 22News, a car crossed over the center line on Walnut Street in Six Corners crashing into Officer Bernadino Lochiatto's cruiser. The officer was treated at Baystate Medical Center for minor injuries. Several minutes earlier police arrested a Springfield driver after the man's car hit a cruiser in the Forest Park neighborhood at Washington Street and Commonwealth Avenue. Police Lt. Robert Moynihan said Christopher Schofner of Carrol Street was charged with leaving the scene of an accident.

News **09/14/08** **6pm** **:30**

A Springfield man was savagely attacked early this morning as he walked with a friend in the Mason Square neighborhood. According to Springfield police Lt. Robert Moynihan, as many as 9 assailants got out of the car near the CVS parking lot on State Street and started pummeling and stabbing their victim. He's in the hospital right now. Lt. Moynihan told 22News, the gang turned on their victim after their car had struck his companion. He wasn't badly hurt.

News **09/14/08** **11pm** **:30**

Police have found an ambulance stolen by a patient as he was being brought to the hospital. 22News reporter Shane Symolon joins us live in the newsroom, and tells us that the ambulance was stopped only after it hit another car head on. Authorities say everyone did their job. They're glad the ambulance was stopped before anyone else could get hurt. Authorities say they were transporting a man they described as a "crisis patient," to Mercy Hospital, when he suddenly became unruly, throwing objects at EMT's. West Springfield Deputy Fire Chief William Flaherty says the man then took over the ambulance. Other EMT's jumped out of the vehicle in fear for their safety. He then took off down the streets of Springfield, hitting cars, and even a bus. The ambulance eventually came to a stop when it hit another car head on near the corner of Main and Emery Streets. Luis Manual La Raza was in the car, he said he pulled over like most drivers when he saw the ambulance heading towards him on the wrong side of the road. La Raza says the driver of the ambulance kept trying to move forward even after hitting the car. La Raza told 22News he hurt his shoulder in the accident, but for now he's the only reporter of injuries from the incident.

News **09/16/08** **11pm** **:30**

State Police are investigating reports of street racing in Agawam over the weekend. It happened a little after Midnight Sunday Morning. State Troopers and Agawam police responded to a report of speeding vehicles racing West on Route 57. By the time police

arrived, they didn't find anyone racing. Some area drivers tell 22News that street racing is common on that stretch of road.

News **09/16/08** **11pm** **:30**

Someone stole thousands of dollars worth of computer equipment and valuables from the Mater Dolorosa Catholic School on Maple Street in Holyoke. Principal Corine Gurka (Gerk-uh) says it appears the burglars spent "quite some time" ransacking the cafeteria and classrooms over the weekend. Holyoke Police Detectives spent the morning investigating. In addition to 5 TV's, 6 computers and 2 digital cameras, the thieves came close to cleaning-out the school's entire food supply. From milk to whole turkey's, there wasn't even enough left to serve the children lunch.

News **09/16/08** **5am** **:30**

We've heard the stories before, alleged domestic abuse, a restraining order, and all-too-often a tragic end. But as 22NEWS reporter Dan Elias tells us one case in Holyoke ended differently. She heard some banging on her door and somebody was trying to break in. Just before it happened Wilbraham police got a 911 call from a home on Ripley street, a woman saying she'd been tied up by her ex husband--50 year old Stephen Boudreau--who told her he was headed to Holyoke to kill his girlfriend and himself. Wilbraham Police called Holyoke Police who arrived at 302 County Road just in time. We think he was going to torture and kill the victim on County Line Road because why would you go there with duct tape and gasoline. But the crime didn't take place. Police had arrived before or right when the suspect did. As the woman ran out of the house, police searched the woods behind the home and found the suspect with a self-inflicted gunshot wound from which he died the next day. It was a very close call we can just be glad the person called 911 when they did when they were able to do that.

News **09/17/08** **5pm** **:30**

The motorist accused of causing a deadly tanker crash on interstate 91 in Chicopee in March appeared in Chicopee district court this morning for a pre-trial hearing. Victor Aponte has pleaded not guilty to vehicular homicide. A jury trial date has been set for March 26th about a year from the day of the fatal crash. The crash sparked an explosion of smoke and flames that could be seen for miles. Conway native Aaron Staelens was killed in the accident.

News **09/20/08** **6am** **:30**

Flames came shooting out of a Springfield home early this morning. A little after one firefighters were called to this vacant house fire at 77 Commonwealth. Springfield fire spokesman Dennis Ledger says the suspicious fire started in the back of the building and quickly spread to the roof. A neighboring home suffered minor damage...and another one was evacuated. Western Massachusetts Electric Company was on scene and had to disconnect service near the fire. Commonwealth Ave. is blocked off at this time crews are still on the scene investigating the cause of the fire.

News **09/20/08** **6pm** **:30**

An escalating dispute between Springfield neighbors erupted into gunfire this afternoon at the Lucy Mallory Village Apartments on Putnam Circle. Captain of detectives, Robert McFarlin told 22News that in the hail of bullets two men were wounded, and one hospitalized for a bullet wound to the back and the leg. The bullet struck the other man in the leg. Captain McFarlin says neither of the wounds could be considered life threatening. People attending a nearby outdoor birthday party tell 22News that when the shooting started they had their children scatter, run into their homes and lie face down on the floor to protect themselves.

News **09/22/08** **11pm** **:30**

A hit and run driver remains the subject of an intensive Springfield man-hunt this evening. They're searching for the driver who left an injured couple in his wake when he ran them down early this morning in front of 574 Main Street in the South End of the city. Police Lt. Robert Moynihan told 22News the two were crossing Main Street from west to east when the car struck them both. Moynihan says police are looking for the driver of the gray-four door Ford car. One of the hit and run victims is said to have suffered a severe leg injury. His companion wasn't that badly hurt.

News **09/22/08** **5am** **:30**

A bizarre attack in Springfield last night, a man was attacked with a meat cleaver while at a stop light. Capt. Lee Bennett tells 22News that the victim was attacked in his car at Liberty and Denton streets. Capt. Bennett says a man started attacking the victim with the meat cleaver as he sat in his car. The victim then drove off in his car. Witnesses pointed police to the alleged assailant, a homeless man who was nearby. 24-year-old Angel Rodriguez was arrested for the attack. The victim took himself to Baystate medical center for treatment and was released.

News **09/22/08** **5am** **:30**

One person has been shot in a Springfield home invasion. It happened a little before ten o'clock last night at 12 Cole Street according to Capt. C. Lee Bennett. It started from an argument in a driveway, 2 shots were then fired. While trying to run away, one man was shot in the buttocks. The victim was taken to Baystate Medical Center. The incident is still under investigation and police are searching for a suspect.

News **09/22/08** **6pm** **:30**

A suspect is still on the loose after robbing a Convenience Store in Amherst. 22News reporter Kala Rama tells us how the early morning hold up could be apart of a crime spree. This Amherst robbery could possibly be the second in a rash of three robberies all along Route. 9. It happened just after 5 am, two people, a man and a woman were working behind the counter at the Cumberland Farms off Belchertown Rd. in Amherst. The two clerks told

police 2 masked suspects came in to the store and verbally demanded all the cash in the register. The tellers handed over an undisclosed amount of cash and the suspects dressed in black took off with their faces still covered. At this point the details are still sketchy. Police are waiting for fully processed surveillance video because there are cameras set up inside and outside the store. Detectives are hoping for better descriptions and maybe determine what kind of getaway car, if any was used. This is not certain but police see these robberies as possibly being connected. On Thursday, a Cumberland Farms on Main Street in Brimfield was robbed by two masked men. There are still no arrests in that case. Just this morning about one hour after the Amherst Cumberland farms was held up. Two men attempted to rob Cumberland farms further down Route 9 in Brookfield, but were apparently foiled by a customer who doused one of them with a cup of hot coffee. There was no one injured during the three Cumberland Farms robberies. Police are still waiting for more surveillance footage to make a clear connection.

News **09/23/08** **5pm** **:30**

The Polish National Credit Union is issuing a fraud and scam alert. According to the credit union, a number of fraudulent emails, text messages and telephone calls were sent to P-N-C-U members and non members. The messages said that their accounts have been suspended due to a billing failure. Anyone who responded to the email was directed to a fake online banking site or phone number. They were then asked to submit their credit card number and Pin in order to reactivate their account. The Polish National Credit Union is warning that this IS a scam and the credit union would never ask for personal financial information through emails, text messages or telephone calls.

News **09/24/08** **11pm** **:30**

Right now Springfield Police are still trying to figure out how a man ended-up stabbed to death in a wooded area just a few feet away from a busy city street. 22News reporter Julie Tremmel joins us now live from Armory Street, with the latest on what police are calling the city's 10th homicide of 2008. 22News has just learned that the body discovered in a wooded area just behind the vacant house at number 77 Armory Street was that of a 32 year old Springfield man who is a native of Sudan, Africa. Two pedestrians made the gruesome discovery just before four pm today as they were walking on the sidewalk near the corner of Armory and Wilbraham Road. The head of the Springfield Police Department's detective bureau Captain Robert McFarlin tells 22news the 32 year old died after being stabbed multiple times.

News **09/25/08** **12pm** **:30**

A homeless man who claimed he set fire to an American flag, hanging outside a Northampton home, to protest the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan has been placed on probation for two years. Prosecutors say 65-year-old Douglas Wight had faced charges of vandalizing property and burning a tree, but he pleaded guilty to the lesser charge of malicious destruction of property over \$250. He must also pay more than \$300 in restitution. Wight says that he accepted the plea bargain because a conviction on the more serious charges

would have forced him to give up his driver's license, and he lives in his pickup truck. Prosecutors say the flag's owner felt the punishment was adequate.

News **09/25/08** **5pm** **:30**

West Springfield Police are looking for your help in identifying a suspect who allegedly cashed in several hundred dollars worth of stolen lottery tickets. The tickets were taken from a break-in at the Convenience Mart on Park St. in West Springfield on Sept 18th. These are surveillance pictures of the suspect. If you have any information please call the West Springfield Police Department Detective Bureau at 263-3210.

News **09/25/08** **6pm** **:30**

Westfield Police are searching for this man in a cash scam. The incident happened Tuesday at the Big Y located at East Silver Street in Westfield. The man went to the courtesy desk at the Big Y holding 5 twenty dollar bills. The man asked the clerk to exchange the 5 twenties for 2 fifties. The clerk gave the man two fifties in exchange for the 5 twenties. The man then said to the clerk he received one fifty and one five dollar bill. Police believe the man had the five dollars cuffed in the palm of his hand. The clerk took the five dollar bill and gave the man another fifty. The man is a heavy set African American, about 35 years old and has a twitch in his left eye. If you have any information, call the Westfield Police Department at 572-6400.

News **09/26/08** **11pm** **:30**

State police made two arrests during a Drug Raid at two different apartments in Springfield. State Police Captain Peter Higgins tells 22News that the bust was the result of an ongoing investigation in which undercover police purchased illegal drugs. Men were taken into custody from apartments on White Street and Dickinson Street. They'll face charges of trafficking in cocaine, and possession of cocaine with intent to distribute.

News **09/28/08** **7am** **:30**

New this morning, a hit and run accident in Springfield overnight has police investigating. It happened a little after 1:30 AM on 3 Ventura Street. A 94' Acura Integra lost control and crashed into this house. Second floor residents were home at the time of the crash and said they felt the house shake. Lt. Lupert Daniels tells 22news that the male suspect fled the scene on foot. He is still missing this morning.

News **09/28/08** **7am** **:30**

Police are still searching for two possible murder suspects that may have been shopping in our area with the Florida victim's credit card. 52-year old Randi Gorenberg leaving a ritzy shopping mall in Boca Raton, Florida on March 23, 2007. Her body was found dumped a few miles away, the killer never caught. But police say this murder mystery could be unraveling in Western Massachusetts. The suspects made a purchase from Sears at the Holyoke Mall last month, and also made purchases in West Springfield and Connecticut. If you have any

information, you're asked to call the Holyoke police department criminal investigations bureau at 322-6940 or Palm Beach county crime stoppers at 800-458-tips.

News **09/28/08** **7am** **:30**

We're following more breaking news in Springfield this morning. Fire strikes twice at a house in Forest Park. An arsonist set the home on fire earlier this year, and now investigators believe someone set it ablaze again.

News **09/30/08** **11pm** **:30**

Springfield detectives want help finding the thieves who took more than 50-thousand dollars worth of merchandise from a downtown store. Police say someone broke into Signatures at 12-32 Main Street sometime between Saturday night and this morning. The burglars jimmied the door open and helped themselves to everything in the store. According to a police report, the thieves too 100 pairs of Nike Sneakers, 100 watches, 100 pair of earrings, 50 cell phones, batteries, phone cards and dozens of gold and silver chains. Anyone who hears about someone trying to sell these items is asked to contact the Springfield Police Detectives at 787-6355.

The following is WWLP programming addressing Education during the 3rd quarter of 2008. These issues were addressed through our locally produced news programming.

News 07/03/08 5:30pm :30

Americans seem to be losing confidence in public education. A new poll out by the associated press said half of Americans say schools in the country are doing a poor job preparing students for college and the work force. Many say the quality of schools in the United States has dropped over the past 20 years. A local principal said a lot of that has to do with standardized testing.

News 07/07/08 5pm :30

Some local teens are getting a taste of college this summer. As part of the Rising Ninth Grader Program, a collaborative between the Springfield Public Schools and American International College, these students took part in a human anatomy lab with real cadavers. Students 22 News spoke with say the classes will help them with their future studies.

News 08/01/08 6am :30

Full-day Kindergarten programs appear to help children's reading and math skills more than part-day programs, but a new study shows that advantage may not last. Researchers at the University of Pittsburgh and Loyola University studied the academics and home environments of over 13,000 children throughout their elementary school years. Initially, they found children attending full-day kindergarten showed superior academic skills to those in part-day programs. But by the end of 3rd grade, that advantage had faded out, and by fifth grade had actually reversed.

News 08/04/08 5pm :30

School is right around the corner for some Western Massachusetts students. At least for those who are going back before Labor Day. Some parents and teachers are not happy about the schedule. They say school starting before the Monday holiday cuts short everyone's vacations, especially if they're only in school 3 or four days before the three day weekend.

News 08/06/08 NOON :30

About two-thirds of state's middle schools are not meeting performance goals established under the federal "No Child Left Behind Act." An analysis by The Boston Globe shows that more than 200 of the state's 305 middle schools are falling short. State Education Secretary

Paul Reville says the state needs to do more to help middle schools. He says problems in high school often start in middle school.

News **08/11/08** **NOON** **:30**

Governor Patrick has signed a 10 year, \$2.2 billion higher education bond bill to help pay for new building and renovation projects at the state's public colleges and universities. The bill, which relies on borrowed money, sets aside up to \$1 billion for the five University of Massachusetts campuses, and \$1.2 billion for the 29 state and community colleges. The money will help pay for expanded classrooms, new academic centers, laboratory space, repairs to research centers and library expansions. Patrick has said the hefty price tag is needed to put the state's higher education system on a par with the rest of the country and the world.

News **08/25/08** **5:30pm** **:30**

With the new school year fast approaching, students and parents are working to comply with Springfield's new uniform policy. One of the authorized vendors, also the cheapest one of all, the Salvation Army is expecting a big wave of parents, as the first day of classes draws near. The Salvation Army store on Boston Road in Springfield is gearing up for a "bigger than usual" crowd this week, which is mainly parents shopping for school uniforms. For the first time all Springfield students are required to wear them. The colors vary from school to school, but the goal is the same. It gives us an opportunity to focus on teaching and learning and the things that are important in education, and not on fashion, says Superintendent of Schools Alan Ingram. Students who don't comply with the new uniform policy will receive a series of warnings and could ultimately face detention.

News **08/27/08** **11pm** **:30**

The state's SAT scores rose in all three sections of the college entrance test this year and beat the national averages. Massachusetts high school graduates scored an average of 525 out of 800 on the math section -that's a three point increase from last year. The 514 score on the critical reading section was a one point climb, and the 513 average on the writing section was up two points. That's well above the national averages, which were 515 in math, 502 in reading, and 494 in writing.

News **08/28/08** **5pm** **:30**

An audit ordered by Springfield's new Superintendent of Schools, Alan Ingram called for a re-organization of the School Department's administration. It also recommended better customer service and more support of schools immediately. The audit is calling for an improved communication system and a streamlining process. And the Superintendent is now implementing those recommendations. The hard hitting report called for improved customer service within the school system for parents and principals, and that will involve reorganizing the School Department's Central Office of Administration. Superintendent of Schools, Dr.

Alan Ingram says the changes that he's implementing were needed to help improve student learning.

News **09/01/08** **5am** **:30**

Greenfield students are going back to school on Wednesday after turmoil this spring when the school system discovered a million dollar budget shortfall. But the schools have gone through a major reorganization. Dalton Athey Chair of the Greenfield school Committee says education officials have worked all summer reorganizing the school system, just so it can open on Wednesday. A lot has changed. One fifth of the teachers were laid off at the end of last year, principles are covering multiple schools, and a total redistribution of both students and teachers.

News **09/02/08** **6pm** **:30**

Students heading back to school in Springfield looked a little different thanks to a new school uniform policy. The latest fashion accessory for back to school comes in only four colors, khaki, white, blue, and black. It's a school uniform and every single one of the 26-thousand students attending school in Springfield this year must wear them. Some of the limitations include no logos and insignias on the clothing, no sandals, and shorts or skirts must be knee-length or below the knee. Although not everyone embraced the policy, the superintendent says many of the parents and teachers he spoke with believe it is a positive change. We have a protocol we follow and the expectation is the kids will be in uniforms through all of the school year. And, if the protocol is not followed students could face warnings or even detention.

News **09/03/08** **6pm** **:30**

A roofing project reveals a disturbing discovery, asbestos in an elementary school. School starts tomorrow for West Street elementary school in Granby, but not without a little distraction for students. A roofing project revealed asbestos at the West Street School in Granby. As long as it's not disturbed it's not an issue but once it's rattled and sent airborne then comes the concern. Abatement is the proper way to remove asbestos. Followed by some air quality tests to make sure your children will not be in danger. The school is as clean as it always was. There is no dust. There will be some banging for the first couple of days. There is one more third grade classroom that will need to be completed. And while construction wraps up in that third grade classroom those students will be taught right here in the library for less of a distraction. All work should be complete in two weeks as long as the weather cooperates.

News **09/04/08** **5pm** **:30**

A new educational initiative is helping students at two Springfield high schools better prepare for college. More students at Central High School and The Springfield Renaissance School are taking advanced placement courses thanks to the Mass Math and Science Initiative. Juniors and seniors taking college-level Math, English and Science classes can earn college

credit. School and government officials discussed the goals of this program at Central High School today. They say it has improved A-P enrollment by 60 percent.

News **09/08/08** **6am** **:30**

The new Holyoke Catholic High School will be blessed and dedicated later today. The Bishop will be joined by Chicopee Mayor Michael Bissonette at the dedication ceremony set for 10:30 this morning. The new school opened for classes on August 28th, less than a year after groundbreaking at the new site, with an enrollment of 299 students, up slightly from the previous academic year. The new school has 25-thousand square feet of refurbished space along with a new 33-thousand square foot 3-story addition.

News **09/09/08** **12pm** **:30**

A new report says the state's 2-year-old effort to create universal access to preschool has done little to get more children in programs. The report is scheduled to be released today by the state Board of Early Education and Care, and says efforts have provided more than 100 programs with new classroom materials, computers or teacher bonuses but has done little to make them more affordable to more children. There is still a waiting list of over 4,000 children seeking state financial assistance to attend preschool.

News **09/16/08** **5pm** **:30**

High schools may need to take another look at their curriculums because it may not be providing enough preparation for students heading off to college. 22news reporter Kala Rama has the findings of a new report that'll make you think twice about being "College Ready". This report called "Diploma to Nowhere" says 1/3 of Americans needed remedial work before heading off to college. The groups "Strong American Schools" did the study. They found that colleges and taxpayers are spending almost 3 billion dollars each year on classes that students should have had in high school. We hit the University of Massachusetts Amherst campus to see what students thought about the findings

News **09/16/08** **6pm** **:30**

State Education officials say students M-CAS scores are improving some, the best they've ever been. 22NEWS reporter Shane Symolon tells us parents still have mixed feelings about the tests. Parents in Greenfield were happy to hear that children we're doing better but some still think students shouldn't have to take them at all or at least they shouldn't need to pass them to graduate, and their adding M-CAS requirements. The class of 2010 will be the first to have to pass the science test as well as math and English. 83 percent passed, the rest will still be given a chance to retake the exam. Parents against the test say that teachers may be teaching to the test and leaving out other important lessons. And that receiving a diploma should be based on grades not on how well their child tests. There were parents on both sides of the argument.

News **09/20/08** **6am** **:30**

Half of the state's public schools have failed to make adequate progress toward meeting federal "No Child Left Behind" standards for at least two straight years, up from 37 percent a year ago. State Department of Education officials released figures yesterday, saying 50 percent of public schools, or 828 schools, have been identified for improvement, corrective action or restructuring under the federal accountability system. The assessment is based on student performance on the 2008 MCAS English and math exams. Education Commissioner Mitchell Chester said he takes the figures seriously, but doesn't consider these schools failures.

News

09/25/08

6pm

:30

A rather generous gift for Westfield Vocational Technical High School. Today the school received a 14 million dollar private grant for aerospace manufacturing software.

The following is WWLP programming addressing Environment during the 3rd quarter of 2008. These issues were addressed through our locally produced news programming.

News 07/01/08 11pm :30

The spiraling cost of energy has people re-thinking the importance of the environment. New research finds Americans are more concerned with new energy exploration and development than they are with conservation. Researchers say the high cost of fueling up is now the driving force behind a major shift in public opinion. Apparently when it involves money, people will forsake the environment to save cash. A new research poll finds high fuel prices have dramatically changed the way you look at on energy and the environment. More and more people feel energy exploration is a bigger priority than energy conservation. In the abstract, Americans will always say they're very strong environmentalists, very few say they're unsympathetic with it but when it comes to personal sacrifice from environment, that's a whole different matter, and the environment comes in second to spending more money. According to the new poll, instead of conservation, Americans are now concerned with getting more oil, gas and more power plants. That's up 12% from the same survey just 5 months ago.

News 07/08/08 NOON :30

Hurricane Bertha reached hurricane strength yesterday morning. Less than 24 hours later, it's a category-three storm with wind speeds of nearly 120 miles-per-hour. A forecaster at the National Hurricane Center says Bertha should stay at the same intensity for the next day or two. The storm is more than 1,000 miles southeast of Bermuda. Forecasters don't know yet if Bertha will hit the island, but residents are being urged to pay attention to the storm.

News 07/08/08 5:30pm :30

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is predicting unhealthy air quality for most of Massachusetts. Smog is expected to be a big problem this week. Today's high temperatures combined with the high humidity are making it hard to breathe. These conditions can prove dangerous especially to children, seniors, and others with respiratory problems.

News 07/14/08 NOON :30

The debate over using corn for fuel, and whether it's driving up food prices, has been one focus of the nation's Governors meeting in Philadelphia. The Governors discussed moving beyond ethanol that is made just from food sources. They're not talking about doing away with the corn-based fuel, but instead, adding it to products made from switch-grass or wood waste. But some are blaming high food prices on the push for ethanol. The Agriculture

Department says its one factor, along with growth in developing countries and tight global grain supplies.

News **07/15/08** **6am** **:30**

Massachusetts Attorney General Martha Coakley is blasting the Bush administration for rejecting regulation of greenhouse gases. Coakley called the Environmental Protection Agency's refusal to use the Clean Air Act to regulate greenhouse gas emissions "unconscionable". The White House said regulations could lead to more job losses in already tough economic times. Massachusetts was the lead state in a lawsuit that sought to have the EPA regulate greenhouse gases, blamed for global warming, under the federal Clean Air Act.

News **07/17/08** **5:30pm** **:30**

There are environmentally friendly ways to get a beautiful yard. Many commonly used synthetic fertilizers and weed control products contain strong chemicals that can damage the environment. Using organic and natural products is better for the soil and has a healthier impact on your lawn in the long term.

News **07/21/08** **5:30pm** **:30**

Farming is a way of life for many Franklin County residents, but now millions of dollars of crops were wiped out by Saturday's apparent microburst. The damage done is still being surveyed, but what's for sure is the storm was a big blow for two communities who depend on cashing in on their crops. Hundreds of acres of crops, crushed after Saturday's microburst flattened much of the precious produce. It did a lot of damage, the high winds with the raindrops were so heavy. Town officials there say the storm wiped out nearly one million dollars worth. In Sunderland, it was a similar story. Sweet corn got blown to the ground another big farm have tobacco and their crops suffered half million dollars, 30 acres of it. Tobacco plants were trampled in each town by the near 100 mile per hour winds. Now state emergency management officials tour the destruction to possibly provide relief funding. The hope from the towns is the legislature would approve disaster reimbursement funding.

News **07/29/08** **5pm** **:30**

The Natural Resource Defense Council says closings and advisories at U.S. beaches topped 20,000 in 2007. According to the NRDC's annual survey of water quality and public notification this number is the second highest ever, and they say pollution is the cause. The largest known source of pollution is contamination from storm water. It caused more than 10,000 closing and advisory days last year. Some feel aging and poorly designed sewage and storm water systems are to blame for the increase, along with the growing population in coastal areas.

News **08/05/08** **5pm** **:30**

A tri-state initiative is underway to clean-up the Connecticut River. There are still a lot of pollution issues that affect the river. They still need a lot of money to clean them up. People need to understand them better before they're willing to allocate public funding to deal with them. Some of the project tasks include water quality monitoring and raising public awareness. The Pioneer Valley Planning Commission is leading the 1.4 million dollar project. Other organizations in Massachusetts, Vermont, and New Hampshire are also taking part in this effort. This multi-year initiative will address issues affecting the river's health--including bacterial pollution, riverbank erosion, and agricultural runoff.

News **08/06/08** **5:30pm** **:30**

Helping to make the environment a bit greener, Forest Park administrators will be adopting some new hybrid vehicles. The city of Springfield is giving four hybrid SUVs to the Parks Department. They are 2008 Ford Escapes. The new hybrids are intended to replace the Park's older vehicles and will be used by the administration. Hybrid cars have low emissions and use less fuel to operate. 22 News already has a number of Hybrid SUV's in service for our News Operation. Springfield Mayor Domenic Sarno says the vehicles were purchased for the parks department on a trial basis and hopes to expand the use of hybrids throughout the city.

News **08/10/08** **7am** **:30**

This week's storms have Western Massachusetts farmers keeping an eye on their crops. The rain is splitting some tomatoes and causing others to spoil on the vine. There are worries tobacco could get "jelly rot," which could cause leaves to fall. The wind and soggy ground also weakens trees.

News **08/13/08** **NOON** **:30**

All this rain certainly has impacted crops here in Western Massachusetts, especially at the Oxbow Marina in Northampton. A lot of the land is now under water sure to kill part of this crop. Cucumber season is in full swing. These cucumbers were just about ready to be picked, but that won't be the case for a lot them.

News **08/13/08** **5:30pm** **:30**

Governor Patrick has signed bills to increase the number of so-called "green jobs" and reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Massachusetts. The new laws provide funding to encourage environmentally friendly start-up companies and offer grants to train workers for jobs in the green economy. Patrick says the initiative will help make the Bay State a clean energy leader.

News **08/23/08** **6am** **:30**

You see algae collecting on ponds and even swimming pools, but for some biofuel enthusiasts the slime is a gold mine, and unlike growing corn for ethanol, algae doesn't affect

the food supply. It could very well be the fuel of the future. For every gallon of algae that you process you can get a half a gallon or more, depending on the strain of algae, of oil. Scott Comey and his team of 30 PhD's, professors, and other working New Englanders envision a future in which they could sell algae based biofuel as home heating oil for under \$2 a gallon. To accomplish this, they are looking to these machines. The bigger machines require sunlight to grow algae, but these smaller ones don't. Just add a little algae, and it becomes a microscopic happy hour, with cells reproducing every few hours. Using old factory buildings, the plan is to grow algae in mass quantities, and then convert it into heating oil through a few simple chemical reactions. Big oil companies are already looking into the algae option, but Comey feels that's not enough. The problem with that is that they're still keeping it centralized, they're controlling it. What we're doing is putting people in control of their own fuel destiny.

News **08/25/08** **5:30pm** **:30**

Massachusetts and 11 other states are suing the Environmental Protection Agency, claiming the Bush Administration has failed to rein in emissions from oil refineries. New York Attorney General Andrew Cuomo says the suit is aimed at forcing the EPA to adopt new regulations to reduce oil industry pollution that contributes to global warming. The suit is the latest by states critical of the EPA's record on environmental regulation and global warming.

News **08/25/08** **5:30pm** **:30**

Baystate Medical Center is unveiling plans for the construction of a new \$259-million facility. They call it the hospital of the future. 90% of the Harris-Porter building will be recycled. The project features a state-of-the-art Heart and Vascular center and a green roof, adorned with trees and greenery.

News **08/26/08** **NOON** **:30**

The federal government's proposing a speed limit for commercial ships along the Atlantic coast, where collisions with the endangered right whale threaten its existence. About 300 of the whales are left. The rare whales migrate every year from southeastern Atlantic breeding grounds to the feeding areas off the Massachusetts coast. That has them swimming through busy shipping lanes. The rule would set a 10 knot speed limit within 23 miles of major ports for five years.

News **08/26/08** **5pm** **:30**

Dead birds found in Longmeadow and East Longmeadow have tested positive for the West Nile Virus, making them the 33rd and 34th positive findings this year in Massachusetts. In 2007 there were only six documented cases of the virus in humans and none reported for 2008. The illness is similar to the flu with the quick onset of a very high fever, head and body aches, but no cough. One local doctor says that the majority of people who are bitten by an infected mosquito will not become ill.

News **08/27/08** **11pm** **:30**

Springfield officials say the city's \$90 trash fee is here to stay and that amount will likely increase over time. The Waste and Recycling Committee told the Springfield City Council the cost of trash removal is projected to hit \$11 million dollars by 2011 - that's \$3 million dollars more than what it costs right now. Springfield city councilor Timothy Rook says if the city decides to cover the cost - without tapping into the city budget - the fee would increase to about \$185 per year /per barrel.

News **08/28/08** **12pm** **:30**

A printing equipment company will pay fines after a 2006 chemical spill at a plant in South Hadley. The Hudson New Hampshire Company has agreed to pay a \$32,000 federal fine and develop a \$70,000 school curriculum in Massachusetts. Schools were closed for a day and about 90 residents evacuated from their homes after an acid spill. The Environmental Protection Agency alleged that Presstek had not designed or maintained a safe facility and that insufficient safety controls and operator error probably caused the chemical release.

News **08/29/08** **5pm** **:30**

Water woes for one Hampshire County community. As students are moving back on to campus they may be at risk of getting sick due to dirty water. Residents in North Amherst also have a serious concern; this area in North Amherst had recent water tests prove to be positive for e-coli. Two samples from UMASS water supply tested positive for COLI- FORM. The Amherst director of water resources says they are working on figuring out whether a boil order is necessary.

News **09/02/08** **6pm** **:30**

A South Hadley viewer pointed out possible dumping of polluted soil near a water source. A viewer had e-mailed in worried about some suspicious soil in an area near a fresh water source. The Department of Environmental Protection spokesperson says they also received complaints. After looking into the matter officials realized soil was dumped in the area of Elmer Brook in South Hadley. And in that area are some conservation restricted forests and streams. The DEP says they did do some testing on the soil there and they are awaiting results to make sure there are no harmful chemicals. The soil has been covered with tarp in a remote area and the DEP is looking into potential disposal option should a problem arise. And for right now, they are still trying to figure out who dumped the soil in that area.

News **09/05/08** **5pm** **:30**

The Town of Amherst is the latest local community to receive a West Nile Virus health advisory. The advisory comes just as thousands of students are returning to start classes at UMASS and Amherst College. According to the state Department of Public Health, West Nile Virus has been detected in mosquitoes collected in Amherst. Symptoms of West Nile may vary. They can include: fever, headache, neck stiffness, body aches, vision loss, nausea,

swollen lymph glands and a skin rash. People over 50 and those with compromised immune systems are more likely to develop serious symptoms if they do get sick, but everyone should take precautions to prevent mosquito bites.

News **09/05/08** **5pm** **:30**

Residents of one Hampshire County community complain of horrible tasting water. The Department of Environmental Protection ordered chlorine be put in the water in Hadley for one year because water samples kept testing positive for Coli form. Apparently, the first time around, the chlorine dosage was not enough, and the second time around it was too much. Residents were complaining their drinking water tasted chlorinated. Hadley Town Administrator David Nixon says they are working on finding a balance of Chlorine so the water tastes better and the residents are safe from coli form.

News **09/06/08** **11pm** **:30**

25 Thousand Amherst residents and UMASS students are in the clear. Water tests have come back negative for E-Coli. Ten water samples taken from the University of Massachusetts campus and North Amherst pending a boil order, showed no traces of E-Coli. This past week, one sample from North Amherst tested positive for E-Coli and two samples from UMASS showed traces of Col-I form. Residents are relieved to have clean water.

News **09/07/08** **7am** **:30**

A Granby resident also deals with flooding in his basement this morning after the storm hit hard in his neighborhood. A blocked culvert and a partial road collapse caused the flooding on Pleasant Street late last night. Granby Fire Chief Russ Anderson tells 22news that 14 feet of underneath road collapsed. David Duxbury's basement is flooded for the third time in ten years.

News **09/07/08** **9am** **:30**

A Holyoke woman was trapped in her car when last night's torrential downpour triggered a sand slide. 22News recorded an unbelievable scene this morning in the parking lot of a Prew Street apartment complex. Sand from a nearby hill had covered several cars in the parking lot. The woman who suffered the ordeal of being helplessly trapped inside her car told 22News about her nightmare situation. We're told the cars may have to remain buried until tomorrow. Residents in the Prew Street area of Holyoke told 22News, they had never encountered a sight quit like this before.

News **09/07/08** **9am** **:30**

From Haiti to here, Hanna certainly left its mark leaving behind drenching rains across the pioneer valley. The water has receded here but overnight was a completely different story. On Memorial Avenue, Cold Spring Avenue and Baldwin Street -- this vicinity was hit with flash floods quickly drowning cars. In Springfield, a similar story -- and again, not a good idea

to try and drive your car through the water, you never know how deep it is. Many motorists found that out the hard way, stalling out. And in Westfield, on Elm Street, Westfield Police closed the Great River Bridge after a pond formed near an underpass. Still it didn't stop some from pressing their luck and driving through. We talked to a towing company who responded to at least 50 calls by 11 last night alone and weren't able to keep up.

News **09/08/08** **12pm** **:30**

Hurricane Ike is dominating everyone's attention today but Tropical Storm Hanna is still making life miserable in parts of New England. About 100 feet of road in Milford partially collapsed and some rivers were rising, but the waters were expected to recede before any larger rivers crested their banks. The winds downed some power lines and crews were working yesterday to restore electricity to about 10,000 customers. The storm's timing, overnight and in the early morning hours of yesterday, meant fewer drivers were on the roads at the height of the rains.

News **09/08/08** **5pm** **:30**

Fire officials in Attleboro say one person has been hospitalized and as many as dozen more were being de-contaminated after a cyanide leak at a business that makes gold and silver alloys. Fire Capt. Keith Jackson says the department was alerted to a "cyanide emergency" at Stern-Leach Co. about 8:30 A.M. Monday. The building was evacuated and one person was taken to Rhode Island Hospital in Providence, R.I., with cyanide burns. He says a dozen others were being decontaminated by hazardous materials crews on the scene, and then would be taken to area hospitals for observation.

News **09/09/08** **5:30pm** **:30**

Too little rain's not good for farmers here in Western Massachusetts. But neither is too much rain. The current crop has been taking quite a drenching this summer. Saturday's torrential downpour along with today's heavy rain hasn't done local farmers any favors.

News **09/10/08** **6am** **:30**

Even though cooler weather is moving in the Massachusetts department of public health says West Nile has been discovered in several western mass towns. Mosquitoes infected with West Nile virus have been found Amherst, Chicopee, Greenfield, Northampton and Springfield. Birds that have tested positive for the virus have been found in Belchertown, East Longmeadow, Hampden, Hatfield, Longmeadow, Southampton, West Springfield, and Westfield. The DPH says residents have an important role in protecting themselves from mosquitoes by wearing repellent. They also ask you report any dead crows or blue jays - as that may be a sign for West Nile by calling 1-866-mass-wnv.

News **09/10/08** **5pm** **:30**

The town of Monson is still recovering from damage caused by this weekend's damaging rain storms. Highway surveyors said 22 roads in Monson had to be temporarily blocked off as a result of the storm on Saturday. 15 of the roads were damaged after the water receded, while 6 of the roads were impassable. Monson highway surveyor John Morrel tells 22news many residents were seriously inconvenienced by the road damage.

News **09/16/08** **5am** **:30**

Some Springfield residents will get a recycling makeover this month. The city's pilot program should boost recycling rates and make the process more convenient. Recycling in the city of Springfield mandatory, but certain situations put a cap on what actually goes on. These new 95 gallon carts are scheduled for delivery this weekend. And quite the upgrade it is. These new barrels not only allow for bigger, and more items, but eliminate any heavy lifting and exposure to our sometimes wild New England weather. Possibly the best part of the new program, no separating: you can throw papers, plastics, aluminum cans-all in the one cart. The use of a similar "single stream" recycling program in Boston, more than doubled the city's recycling rate.

News **09/16/08** **12pm** **:30**

Federal agriculture officials say the invasive Asian long-horned beetle found this summer in Worcester-area trees may have been in the region for more than a decade. The U.S. Department of Agriculture confirmed yesterday that a local pest control company has had one of the destructive insects in its collection since 1997. That's four or five years before the department thinks the beetles arrived in Worcester.

News **09/16/08** **5pm** **:30**

Until now, parents only had two choices when it came to diapers: cloth or disposable. Now there's a new option that is a lot easier on the environment. 22News Green Team reporter Shiri Spear is live at the Big E with the scoop. As a mother, consumer, and someone who cares about the environment, it's hard to choose which type of diaper to buy. The g diaper, though, puts a whole new spin on the situation. There's a new product in town. Not quite a cloth diaper, but not a disposable either. It's called a g diaper. This will keep your baby dry while being a friend to the environment. The outer diaper is cloth and washable, there are three options with the inner lining: You can toss it, flush it, or compost it! They will breakdown in the trash, and are considered septic system safe. So this landfill free choice is, no doubt, appealing. And you've got to admit that it's pretty convenient-which was the top reason consumers named in buying disposable diapers. A starter kit with 2 outer diapers, 10 liners, and a flushing swish-stick runs less than 30 dollars. But we all know that being green sometimes costs some extra green, and the g diaper liners are more expensive than the diapers can buy in bulk from a wholesale club. Even when making earth friendly choices, every parent has his or her price.

News **09/18/08** **11pm** **:30**

If you're making plans to carve a jack-o lantern for Halloween you may find yourself paying a pretty penny for that perfect pumpkin. Local farmers say this summer's wet weather followed by unseasonable heat has fall and winter crops suffering. Many area farmers say they already had to throw out acres of pumpkins. They ripened early, and now they're just one of the veggies rotting in the field.

News

09/23/08

6am

:30

A boil order remains in effect for the town of Bernardston where e-coli bacteria was discovered in the water. Schools in town closed yesterday after the revelation. The Franklin County Sheriff Triad is bringing senior citizens bottles of water. Gladys Boyle says she's been boiling water since Friday when she learned of the contamination.

The following is WWLP programming addressing Health during the 3rd quarter of 2008. These issues were addressed through our locally produced news programming.

News 07/03/08 6am :30

Women may live longer than men, but new data shows women over ninety are twice as likely to have dementia compared to men the same age. Researchers at the University of California Irvine came to this conclusion after studying 900 adults over age 90. The likelihood of developing dementia doubled every five years in the women, but not in men. The study also found women with higher education had a 45% reduced risk for the disease.

News 07/06/08 7am :30

The number of salmonella cases are growing. The government says the outbreak has now sickened 943 people. Investigators are trying to find the source of the biggest salmonella outbreak linked to produce in U.S. history. U.S. health officials initially blamed tomatoes for the record outbreak, but the Food and Drug Administration says it's now focusing on other types of vegetables: jalapeno peppers, cilantro, green onions, any ingredient mixed to make fresh salsa. Even after most Americans stopped eating raw tomatoes, the FDA says more cases were being reported. The agency is now retracing its steps, starting with re-interviewing the hundreds of people who got sick. Health officials are again reminding people of the symptoms of salmonella -- Symptoms which include fever, diarrhea and stomach pains. The illness usually lasts 4 to 7 days.

News 07/08/08 NOON :30

Researchers at Kaiser Permanente conducted a study of almost 1,700 people to find out the best predictors of weight loss. They found those who kept a food diary, by recording everything they ate, lost twice as much weight as those who kept no records. Most lost an average 18 pounds in six months. The study also found those who lost the most weight attended support sessions frequently.

News 07/14/08 NOON :30

New research suggests having a glass of red wine with your steak could help ward off the unhealthy effects of red meat. Researchers in Israel have found the powerful antioxidants in red wine may actually block the harmful substances the body forms while digesting fat. They experimented with lab rats, giving them either red wine concentrate along with red meat or red meat alone. They found the red wine substantially reduced the toxic byproducts of the meat when combined in their stomachs.

News **07/22/08** **NOON** **:30**

The Food and Drug Administration's food safety chief says the discovery of the same strand of salmonella in the nationwide outbreak on the pepper is a "very important break." But the case isn't closed yet. For now, the FDA is warning against eating fresh jalapenos and products made with them, such as fresh salsa. Tomatoes now on the market are considered safe to eat.

News **07/23/08** **11pm** **:30**

West Nile Virus has shown up in Massachusetts' mosquitoes earlier this year than last, and the experts say you need to take steps to protect yourself and your children from Mosquito bites. In most people, about 80%, a West Nile Virus infection is relatively benign. 20% of infected people would have flu-like symptoms, and an unlucky one 1% will develop serious health issues such as encephalitis. Prevention is key: avoid being bitten.

News **07/25/08** **5:30pm** **:30**

A new report is warning homeowners that their granite countertops could be a health hazard. Some exotic varieties of granite, especially from Brazil and Namibia, have been found to emit hazardous levels of Radon, a radioactive gas which can cause lung cancer. The Marble Institute of America says granite is known to contain small amounts of radioactive materials, but that the amounts contained in countertops are not enough to pose a health risk. However, the EPA is receiving an increasing number of calls from homeowners concerned that their countertops may be dangerous to their health.

News **07/25/08** **5:30pm** **:30**

Studies show that people with diabetes have an increased risk of developing tuberculosis. After reviewing 13 studies on the relationship between the two diseases, researchers at the Harvard School of Public Health found that in fact, diabetics are 3 times more likely to develop T.B. Diabetes may be the cause of about 10% of T.B. cases in India and China. Researchers say better efforts to diagnose and treat diabetes worldwide could help lessen the blow of tuberculosis, which kills 1.6 million people each year.

News **07/29/08** **5pm** **:30**

A case of the West Nile Virus has been confirmed in West Springfield. Jean Galloway from the Department of Health told 22 News that a dead crow was discovered on Piper Road last week and was sent to be tested for the virus. The results came back positive yesterday. This is the first case confirmed in Western Mass. It is the fourth in the state.

News **07/29/08** **5:30pm** **:30**

House leaders have agreed to seek another 89-million dollars from the state, insurance companies, and health care providers for the Massachusetts Universal Health Care Law.

Business leaders targeted by Gov. Deval Patrick for another 33-million were spared, under a proposal that was announced today. Patrick's administration had proposed closing a loophole that allowed companies that did not provide insurance and had more than 10 employees from paying a \$295 per-worker fee. Since taking effect in April 2006, the law has helped about 340,000 people get health insurance.

News **08/02/08** **6am** **:30**

The Virginia Department of Health addressed questions yesterday about an outbreak of e-coli at a Goshen, Virginia Boy Scout reservation. According to Virginia health officials, there are now 15 confirmed cases of an e-coli infection among boy scouts who attended the camp. Friday, officials said 9 of the more than 50 scouts who became ill had to be hospitalized. Officials continue to investigate the source of the outbreak. As a precaution, the camp has pulled all hamburger meat off the menu in case that's what contained e-coli.

News **08/06/08** **5pm** **:30**

A federal task force says doctors should stop prostate cancer screening for men over 75 because it could do more harm than good. The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force reports that the benefits are small to none. They add that treatment often causes additional issues including erectile dysfunction, and bladder control and bowel problems. The head of oncology and hematology at Baystate Medical Center recommends patients discuss all options with their physician.

News **08/08/08** **NOON** **:30**

Harvard scientists say they have used a new technique to create stems cells for 10 genetic diseases, a step they hope will speed up efforts to find new treatments. The researchers plan to make the cell lines readily available to other scientists. Dr. George Daley and his colleagues at the Harvard Stem Cell Institute used ordinary skin cells and bone marrow from people with a variety of diseases, including Parkinson's and Down syndrome to produce the stem cells.

News **08/11/08** **NOON** **:30**

Harvard scientists say they have used a new technique to create stems cells for 10 genetic diseases, a step they hope will speed up efforts to find new treatments. The researchers plan to make the cell lines readily available to other scientists. Dr. George Daley and his colleagues at the Harvard Stem Cell Institute used ordinary skin cells and bone marrow from people with a variety of diseases, including Parkinson's and Down syndrome to produce the stem cells.

News **08/12/08** **5pm** **:30**

No matter what your waist size is, small or big, you could be prone to heart disease. An Archives of Internal Medicine study shows not all thin people have a slim chance of heart

disease. Some of its family history, associations with people who smoke, or who are less physically active. The results show thick waists, even on people of normal weight, can be a signal of heart risks. Doctor's orders for staying healthy no matter what weight is exercising on a regular bases, giving up smoking at any age, and cheering with a glass of red wine at the legal age! If you can drink a moderate amount of alcohol in a healthy way it does lower your heart disease risk. Otherwise, people who look great can still be a heart attack waiting to happen.

News **08/12/08** **11pm** **:30**

For years we've been told "drink milk for strong bones." Now there's more research suggesting Vitamin D may also lower your risk of death from heart disease, cancer, and diabetes. Johns Hopkins researchers tracked more than 13,000 patients for 8 years and found the people who had the lowest Vitamin D levels had a 26% higher chance of dying. Researchers say that's because Vitamin D affects the immune system, so if you don't have enough, those immune cells that prevent disease may not turn on. And scientists say we can get all the Vitamin D we need from the sun.

News **08/14/08** **5am** **:30**

Hundreds of South Hadley residents are scrambling to protect their families this morning. Officials who monitor water quality warned the public yesterday that drinking water in one section of town has e-coli bacteria in it. On Wednesday night shopping carts at the Big Y in South Hadley were rolling out of the store full of gallons of fresh water. Many South Hadley residents found out about the e-coli in their water through a phone call on their land line. Parents are particularly concerned about the health threat. Public health officials are also reminding South Hadley residents they need to discard any ice, food, formula or juice prepared from Monday on, using tap water. Some residents in Granby who are served by South Hadley's Fire District 2 water were upset that they still had not been notified about the e-coli.

News **08/15/08** **6am** **:30**

More hope for those suffering with four specific types of cancer. The technology isn't new, but recent improvements have made "Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy" even more effective. 22 News spoke with Baystate's Chief of Radiation Oncology about "I-M-R-T." Dr. Brian Acker says physicians are now able to take a computer generated 3-D image of a patient's tumor and use it to program radiation treatment to hit *only* the cancer ridden areas, protecting the healthy tissue around it. Acker says "I-M-R-T" works best with certain cases of prostate, lung, brain, and head, and neck cancers.

News **08/18/08** **5am** **:30**

Bad reactions to commonly-prescribed antibiotics cause more than 140,000 emergency room visits a year, according to researchers at the CDC. Experts there used an electronic surveillance system to study the number of emergency room visits in 63 hospitals. They

found that 6,600 visits were due to antibiotic reactions, which they say comes out to roughly 142,000 visits nationwide. Penicillin and Amoxicillin accounted for half the visits. Experts say even though antibiotics are commonly used, they can still cause side effects and should only be administered when absolutely necessary.

News **08/19/08** **5:30pm** **:30**

The State Department of Public health confirms it's found a mosquito carrying a potentially deadly virus. 22 News went to Franklin County Bureau, to explain how to keep families safe. Public Health officials say they found the first positive mosquito sample of Eastern Equine Encephalitis in Carver. The virus usually spread to humans through bug bites can be deadly. Local Health officials say the best way to protect yourself is to wear bug spray, especially in the early morning and evening hours. They say to wear clothing to cover your skin, like jeans and long socks if your going near wet or wooded areas. Authorities say the positive test shows that Equine Encephalitis is being carried in Massachusetts, but it doesn't say whether bugs in our area are carrying it. They say not to panic, but that people should still be cautious.

News **08/20/08** **11pm** **:30**

State officials are reporting another significant decline in the number of Massachusetts residents without health insurance. Between January 1st and March 31st, the number of health insurance subscribers grew from 340,000 to 439,000. About 191,000 of the newly insured signed up for private insurance since the state's landmark health care law went into effect in June 2006. At the same time, there's been a drop in the number of uninsured residents seeking free emergency care.

News **08/21/08** **5am** **:30**

The expensive new vaccine aimed at preventing cervical cancer may not be best bet for women in their 20's. A new report suggests that it makes sense for young teens and pre-teens when it comes to cost-effectiveness, but not older women. The vaccine against the human Papiloma virus was licensed in 2006 for use in girls and women, ages 9 to 26. Health officials recommend it for girls at age 11 or 12, and some doctors offer it to women in their 20's.

News **08/21/08** **5pm** **:30**

About 80% of people who would or could have been bitten have no symptoms. About 20% may have a rash headache or nausea and less than 1% have a sever reaction. It is not fatal, but they report it as being Ensifalitis or Meningitis.

News **08/25/08** **11pm** **:30**

A protein involved in bone growth may also spur the development of "good" fat. Researchers at Joslin Diabetes Center studied a protein that is known to induce bone growth. They found,

when injected in mice, the protein also triggered the development of brown fat. Brown fat burns calories by generating heat, and is known to play a role in preventing obesity. Most adults lose brown fat cells as they age. The mice that got the injection gained less weight compared to those that did not.

News **09/09/08** **5pm** **:30**

Obesity is a growing problem. Twenty-six percent of people in Massachusetts are obese. As 22news registered dietitian Nancy Dell reports some states are moving to get its workers back into shape, but it could cost them extra money on their health insurance. It's a problem that affects a large percentage of the population. Stress and poor eating habits, sometimes heredity, can wreak havoc on your health. In Massachusetts, some companies pay people who reach their weight goals.

News **09/14/08** **7am** **:30**

Boston has become the latest city to ban the use of trans-fats at restaurants. Starting yesterday, more than five-thousand restaurants and stores are no longer allowed to use trans-fats in their food. The artificial ingredient has been linked to heart disease and other illnesses. Restaurants found in violation could face a one thousand dollar fine. Several other cities including New York have already banned the use of trans-fats.

.News **09/18/08** **5am** **:30**

A series of papers published today suggest there is no such thing as a safe suntan. Experts in Boston found tanning causes d-n-a damage in the skin which is also the trigger for skin cancer. The studies found a link between tanning bed use and melanoma, d-n-a damage and aging. Experts say they think people under the age of 18 shouldn't be allowed to use tanning beds, and they are trying to fight any publicity claims that state tanning bed use is safe.

News **09/26/08** **12pm** **:30**

Massachusetts is lowering its age limit to donate blood in hopes to curb the blood shortage crisis. The legal age to donate blood has been lowered from 17 to 16 years old. During school blood drives 16 year olds will be allowed to give blood if they have parental consent. Supporters of lowering the legal age include the American Red Cross Blood services who believe lowering the donor age will help out with consistent blood shortages.

News **09/29/08** **5am** **:30**

The town of Hadley hosted what could be one of the most unique fitness events in the nation. Running and walking towards better health, over 200 people gathered in Hadley for a unique type of relay. Have some fun walking running. Fit Together, fitness center in Hadley that caters to both people with and without disabilities organized this 5k run and 1 mile walk around the Hadley town common. Fit Together's mission is to integrate people with

disabilities into the larger community and to also give them longer healthier lives. We work with a lot of people with mental illness and developmental disabilities that have a life span that's 25 years shorter than the general population and they're dying because of preventable illnesses. Brit Ruhe, director at Fit Together, says many of the illnesses can be prevented with exercise, good nutrition, and refraining from smoking. I think it's important for communities to be able to understand people with disabilities I think often times there is a stigma. And Fit Together in its first year of operation hopes to break that stigma.

The following is WWLP programming addressing Jobs during the 3rd quarter of 2008. These issues were addressed through our locally produced news programming.

News 07/03/08 6pm :30

Employers have cut payrolls for the sixth straight month. The labor department announced this morning employers eliminated 62,000 jobs in June. Nationwide, job availability has fallen every month this year. Some experts say the new statistics show how employers are reacting to rising fuel prices and other economic concerns.

News 07/06/08 9am :30

Nearly 100 retired teachers in Massachusetts are earning their full salaries while still collecting pensions. The practice is allowed by the state Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to help schools fill positions when there are no other applicants. A review by The Boston Globe found the state frequently ignores its own guidelines, requiring school districts to provide proof that they advertised the jobs, but were unable to find qualified candidates. The retirees earned \$5 million on the job while taking home \$5.5 million in pensions.

News 07/08/08 5:30pm :30

Economic troubles are hitting companies around the globe. Munich-based Siemens A-G says it will cut about 4% of its workforce. Siemens said today that it will slash 16,750 jobs around the world. The move is expected to save Europe's largest engineering company nearly two billion dollars by 20-10 and boost profit margins. The company may also shed more jobs through a restructuring plan.

News 07/14/08 11pm :30

Milwaukee-based Midwest Airlines announced plans today to reduce its workforce by 40-percent, 1,200 employees. They're blaming high fuel prices and the grounding of the MD-80 fleet. Many of the jobs will be eliminated based on seniority. In some cases, the cuts will take effect in a few weeks. Others will keep their jobs until September. This decision is directly linked to Midwest's decision to ground all 12 of its gas-guzzling MD-80s, shrinking the company to a leaner airline.

News 07/15/08 6am :30

Massachusetts Attorney General Martha Coakley is blasting the Bush administration for rejecting regulation of greenhouse gases. Coakley called the Environmental Protection Agency's refusal to use the Clean Air Act to regulate greenhouse gas emissions "unconscionable". The White House said regulations could lead to more job losses in already

tough economic times. Massachusetts was the lead state in a lawsuit that sought to have the EPA regulate greenhouse gases, blamed for global warming, under the federal Clean Air Act.

News **07/17/08** **NOON** **:30**

Claims for people without jobs went up last week and it is no surprise with the economy's slowdown. Companies are cutting down their workforce in order to keep themselves from going under. In a new report, the Labor Department says new applications filed for unemployment insurance increased by a seasonally adjusted 18,000 to 366,000 for the week ending July 12. That left new claims at their highest level since late June. But the filings were less than the 380,000 analysts were predicting.

News **07/17/08** **5:30pm** **:30**

Unemployment in Massachusetts has risen again. The state said today that the unemployment rate rose from 4.9% in May to 5.2% in June. Massachusetts' unemployment rate remains below the national average, which was steady at 5.5% in June.

News **07/23/08** **5:30pm** **:30**

Chrysler says it will cut 1,000 salaried jobs by September 30th. The automaker announced the cuts today in a letter to employees. Chrysler says the layoffs are needed because of the industry-wide slump. The company says they hope most of the cuts will be made through early retirements, and voluntary separation programs.

News **07/24/08** **NOON** **:30**

People who work for minimum wage get a raise today. The federal minimum wage goes up to \$6.55 per hour. It's the second of three hikes in the minimum wage approved by lawmakers in 2007. The next increase happens next July, when the minimum wage reaches \$7.25 an hour. Preliminary information from a new study by the employment policies institute finds that for every 10% increase in the minimum wage, the number of jobs for people between the ages of 16 and 29 drops between 6% and 14%.

News **07/24/08** **5pm** **:30**

New questions tonight on the future of a western Massachusetts based business, whose product is used across the world. Spalding Group was founded in Chicopee 100 years ago. Now as many as 80 of the Springfield jobs could be headed south according to Alan Blair, President of the Economic Development council of Western Mass. 22 News along with Blair contacted parent company, Fruit of the Loom for some definitive answers but were both similarly left in the dark.

News **07/25/08** **6pm** **:30**

The Government reports more than 400,000 people filed new claims for unemployment benefits last week. 22 News Reporter Shane Symolon tells us the Fed's blaming the slowing economy. As the economy continues its decline, companies are laying people off, or just not filling empty positions to cut costs. The last time National Unemployment numbers were this sour was just after the hurricanes hit the gulf coast in 2005. Today unemployment centers say they're having a hard time getting positions to people who knock on their doors. Residents on the job hunt are frustrated as the long search for work continues.

News **07/29/08** **NOON** **:30**

General Motors is laying off more than 1,700 workers because of the drop in sales of full-size pickups and SUV's. GM said it will eliminate shifts at plants in Ohio and Louisiana in late September. The company is cutting truck and SUV production by about 300,000 units. In addition, GM told hourly workers at eight plants they will shut down for 1 to 5 weeks before the end of the year to cut production even more.

News **07/30/08** **5:30pm** **:30**

A new report shows Massachusetts has lost tens of thousands of jobs to China since 2001. The manufacturing industry, both at the state and national level, has been hit hard. Experts say that's mainly due to the China trade gap since Beijing's 2001 entry into the World Trade Organization. More than 13,000 people walk through the doors of Career Point in Holyoke every year in search for jobs. Many of them have been laid off, as a result of the outsourcing of manufacturing jobs. New statistics from the Economic Policy Institute show that Massachusetts has lost 58,400 jobs to China since 2001. Nationally: 2.3 million. The hardest hit industries: manufacturing and technology. Although Western Massachusetts has seen its share of manufacturing businesses leave, Career Point says there are still many good paying opportunities out there. The EPI also says wages dropped as a result of the imbalance in trade with China as displaced workers took lower paying jobs.

News **08/01/08** **NOON** **:30**

The nation's unemployment rate is now the highest in four years. The labor department released information this morning showing the unemployment rate hit 5.7%. That's a slight increase from 5.5% in June. In addition, employers cut 51,000 jobs from payrolls. That's the seventh straight month the economy has lost jobs, bringing the total to about 463,000 for the year.

News **08/01/08** **5:30pm** **:30**

GM's chief financial officer says the automaker might offer another round of buyouts and early retirements. Last month, the automaker said it plans to cut production by 300,000 vehicles as demand for trucks and SUV's plummet. GM's hourly work force has been cut by more than half in recent years as the company's U.S. market share shrinks.

News **08/01/08** **11pm** **:30**

The renovation of a 140 year old mill could bring hundreds maybe even thousands of jobs to one Western Massachusetts Community. Organizers say they're still studying the Ludlow Mill area mostly for industrial use, but also for some commercial and even residential use. They say it's the perfect spot to attract new and existing businesses to the area. The Western Mass Area Development Corporation is looking to totally revamp the area: 60 buildings and 170 acres. The plan still in its initial phases. West Mass Area Development Corporation is conducting a study for the next 18 months to learn how to best use the site.

News **08/04/08** **5:30pm** **:30**

The nation's unemployment rate has climbed to a four year high. Employers cut 51,000 jobs in July. That's bad news for Bay Staters looking for work, but there are some fields that are still hiring. Rexene Picard with "Futureworks" in Springfield says fields like retail will continue to have openings. Medical fields also have staying power. Some of the toughest job searches will be for the younger generation those in their twenties and under, because the new jobs just aren't opening up yet.

News **08/07/08** **NOON** **:30**

Procter & Gamble announced they will cut about 215 jobs over the next five years. The company plans to move production of older blades and razors to Poland, Mexico and elsewhere. A company spokeswoman also says a contractor that runs Gillette's Devens warehousing and packaging facility will transfer operations to sites in Andover and Mexico over the next two years.

News **08/13/08** **5:30pm** **:30**

Governor Patrick has signed bills to increase the number of so-called "green jobs" and reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Massachusetts. The new laws provide funding to encourage environmentally friendly start-up companies and offer grants to train workers for jobs in the green economy. Patrick says the initiative will help make the Bay State a clean energy leader.

News **08/14/08** **5pm** **:30**

The Massachusetts unemployment rate dropped slightly last month to 5.1 percent, down from 5.2 percent in June. That's still well below the national unemployment rate of 5.7 percent. The Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development also says the state has gained jobs this year, particularly in the education and health service sectors.

News **08/19/08** **6pm** **:30**

It may be tougher to get a job these days, and not just because of a slowing economy. You may have some incriminating information about YOU floating through cyberspace. 22 News tells us employers are checking online to find out about the people they plan to hire. Many

think when they post things on sites like facebook or myspace only their friends will see it. But it could come to bite them when employers do a little snooping around. Employers are paying attention to more than just the posted resume's online. They're checking social networking sites like myspace and facebook and with a click of a mouse they can find out about you by googling your name. Patricia Crosby with the Franklin Hampshire Regional Employment Board says that only a few local employers may be doing it.

News **08/21/08** **6pm** **:30**

A budget shortfall spells job loss, program cuts and reduced pay in one Hampshire County town. Ware's town manager wants his residents to know just how serious this budget shortfall is. He says he will even take a 50% paycut to save another job. The problem started last year when the town of Ware drained all their financial reserves to pay for programs, municipal salaries and residents' mandatory needs. Town Manager Steven Boudreau says 2 million dollars will have to be shaved off a 9 million dollar budget for the town to make ends meet. People will potentially be laid off. However, school programs will not be affected, protected by state law. It's going to be difficult for people who live here in town because a lot of people depend on what you are talking about fire police and DPW.

News **08/25/08** **12pm** **:30**

The state has added about 1900 new workers in the past year even as Gov. Deval Patrick warns of possible budget cuts to help deal with a \$1 billion deficit. The Boston Herald reports that since July 2007, the agencies that oversee prisons and highways have made the most new hires. State officials defend the positions as necessary. But Michael Widmer of the Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation says the flurry of new hires is "very troubling" given economic uncertainties.

News **09/02/08** **6pm** **:30**

The Big E season is about to get underway...and New England's great state fair is looking to hire workers. People were stopping by today to fill out applications to work with the vendors that will be coming to the exposition. The Big E will take the applications and pass them out to vendors to decide whom they'll hire. They say they need about one hundred workers this year, from cooks to carnival workers, and the spots should go quickly.

News **09/19/08** **12pm** **:30**

In spite of a higher unemployment rate in the state, there are jobs in the biotechnology field, but no one's applying for them. UMASS has an intense Bio tech program and professors there say it's a multi-disciplinary field involving anything with Engineering/problem solving and the human body. Biotech students say their field is new and growing everyday, so students' aren't aware of all the opportunities

The following is WWLP programming addressing Smoking during the 3rd quarter of 2008. These issues were addressed through our locally produced news programming.

News 07/17/08 11pm :30

A new Harvard University study is leveling serious accusations against the tobacco industry. The study says tobacco companies are experimenting with menthol levels to recruit young smokers. Researchers studied a 2006 survey of Americans 12 and older, conducted tests on menthol cigarettes, and looked at internal tobacco industry papers. Menthol isn't addictive, but study authors say its cooling effect can mask the irritation of smoking, essentially making a milder experience with lower menthol levels for starting smokers.

News 07/25/08 6am :30

People who are exposed to cigarette smoke when they're sick might be making themselves feel worse. Researchers at Yale University found the combination of viral cells and cigarette smoke caused more severe airway damage, and worsened flu symptoms in mice. They also identified how the enhancement of cold symptoms happens when people smoke.

News 07/31/08 5am :30

There are fewer smokers in Massachusetts, and public health officials say they hope to drive the number even lower by helping more people quit. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the rate of adult smoking in Massachusetts is now 16.4%, which is the lowest rate ever recorded in the state. Smoking among teens also is on the decline in Massachusetts. Since 1995, the rate of teen smoking statewide has been cut in half. Smokers say it's getting harder to smoke. Less places allow it, and the health message is getting through. Some say it's even getting to expensive.

News 08/06/08 11pm :30

Some smokers develop an instant liking to cigarettes after their first puff, and now researchers want to know why. University of Ontario researchers used rats to study the pathways involved in nicotine addiction. They were able to identify a receptor that controlled the brain's initial reaction to the rewarding and addictive properties of nicotine. They hope to study this pathway more so they can develop drugs to prevent nicotine vulnerability, or treat nicotine withdrawal. Up until now, studies have looked at brain pathways involved in nicotine dependence. Few have looked at the initial addictive mechanism.

News 08/19/08 5am :30

There's new information out regarding women and smoking. The latest numbers come from the 2006 behavioral risk factor surveillance system, which looked at smoking among American women of reproductive age. Smoking rates among these women range from 5.8% in the U.S. Virgin Islands to as high as 34.7% in Kentucky. Smoking is most prevalent in non-Hispanic whites, those with a high school education or less, and women who are divorced, separated, or widowed.

News **08/20/08** **5am** **:30**

A new report shows a strong link between smoking and home fire deaths. The CDC study finds home fire deaths are higher in states with a greater percentage of smokers. Smoking accounts for about 25% of the 3,000 home fire deaths in the US each year. The CDC says reducing the number of smokers in this country will help lower the number of these tragic deaths caused by home fires. But people who can't kick the habit can be safer by using deep, sturdy ashtrays, dousing cigarettes with water and refrain from smoking in bed.

News **08/25/08** **5:30pm** **:30**

A piece of land near Northampton high school is causing a bit of controversy in the city. It's a little patch of grass in front of the school where students were able to smoke cigarettes because it was public property, but now the city has found a way to keep the area smoke free. There's a sign clearly stating their no smoking policy on school grounds. But it's this triangular piece of land in front of the school separated by a sidewalk that students knew was city property. Therefore, they would smoke before, during, and after school. Now during a City Council meeting, the City and School Administration agreed the best way to keep healthy grounds near the school would be to give the land back to the school to enforce the smoking ban.

News **09/04/08** **6pm** **:30**

Some area tobacco product merchants are complaining about a change in state regulation that has those paying taxes up-front. The owner of Goodies' Convenience Store in Agawam says he was informed September first that he would have to pay sales tax on receipt of tobacco products, instead of owing the tax only after customers had purchased them.

News **09/12/08** **6am** **:30**

It is being called the strongest natural hallucinogen known to man and now, many kids are catching on using what's known as 'salvia' to get high. But the scary part is that it's all legal. 22news in no way promotes the use of salvia, but we believe it's important for parents to be aware that it's out there. The most potent hallucinogen in the world is becoming most popular among young males 18 to 25 years old. Documented use of Salvia, also known as 'Magic Mint', is spreading on websites like You Tube, where users are seen in a daze-like state, laughing uncontrollably, or even drooling. Nearly 2-million people have tried the plant, according to a recent survey and many more.

News

09/22/08

5am

:30

State health officials say more than 9,500 Massachusetts residents received a free 10-day supply of nicotine patches over the summer. The patches were distributed under a program created after the Legislature raised the sales tax on cigarettes by \$1 a pack. They were offered along with information and tips on quitting smoking. The state Department of Public Health plans to conduct a telephone survey in January to determine how many people who were given the patches in July and August actually gave up smoking.

News

09/22/08

5am

:30

Pro-marijuana advocates gathered for an annual rally on Boston Common as voters weigh a ballot question that would ease penalties on pot possession. Police made six arrests at the rally, which called for the legalization of the drug. The mood among the revelers Saturday was upbeat at the possibility that voters might back the ballot initiative, which would make possession of up to an ounce of marijuana a civil offense punishable by a \$100 fine.